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JOHN BULL

Vol. XV. No. 381 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1913. ONE PENNY

(Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.)

For meaning of this No. see page 424.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

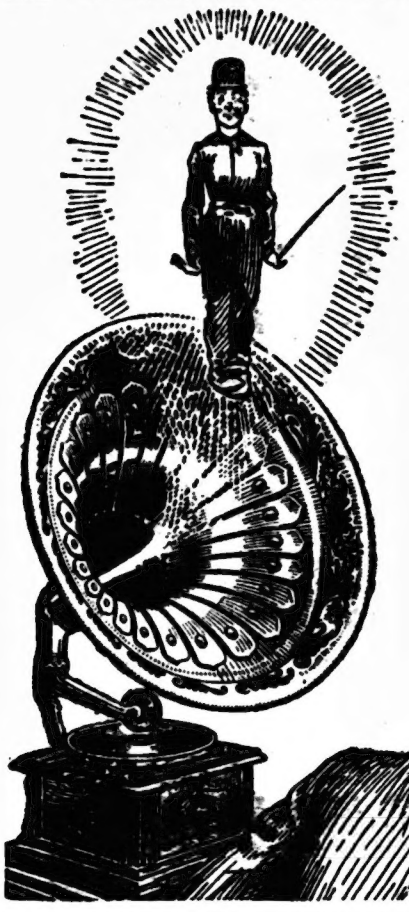
RESULT OF OUR FIRST FOOTBALL CONTEST

SEE PAGE 401

GRAVES GRAMOPHONES

BRING SUNSHINE, JOY, AND HAPPINESS INTO THE FAMILY CIRCLE.

Reasonable outlay for home enjoyment is a good investment, and for quite a trifling expense the Graves Gramophone will bring hundreds of hours of real Sunshining Recreation into your Family Circle. Magnificent Music by renowned Bands and Orchestras, Sweet Ballads, Clever Instrumental Solos, Noble Patriotic Songs, Fascinating Dance Music, Talented Comedians and Fun makers, Brilliant Society Entertainers with everything new, to bring pleasurable interests into your home-life.



THE GRAVES GRAMOPHONE is our own exclusive design and is fitted with all the latest improvements and most recent perfections. **The Cabinet** is of handsome and original design, solidly built from finely marked **Dark Oak**, brilliantly polished, and embellished with a tasteful **Art Metal Panel.** Cabinet dimensions: 12½ × 12½ × 6½ inches. **Powerful Silent Steel Motor** with splendid reserve of power. Nickel plated graduated Tone Arm, 10-in Turntable, handsome 16-in Seamless **Sound Trumpet,** decorated in a charming combination of harmoniously blended Art Shades. Sound Producer of extraordinary power and marvellously sensitive, which reproduces Full Military Band performances and the actual living voices of the World's Greatest Singers with amazing reality.

5/ NOW

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A Postcard will bring you per return our superbly illustrated **Art Catalogue,** which is a complete guide to the latest and best productions of the Gramophone Industry. This masterly work is the finest publication ever issued in the Gramophone interest. It gives you in a clear, understandable way a wealth of useful and practical information of immense value to all who are taking an interest in these fascinating instruments. Every style is illustrated, and full detailed specifications of every model are given. Keenest rock-bottom prices and convenient Monthly Payment Terms are quoted for each machine. 2/- in the £ Discount for Cash with Order.

IMPORTANT. All Gramophone Owners should write for our Catalogue of Disc Records. 4000 Selections. The most varied and complete repertoire of high-grade Records ever published. Twenty or Thirty Selections, according to your own choice, for 5/- NOW, and Monthly Payments after delivery if you are entirely satisfied after full trial at home.

J.G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD

WARNING! this powerful high-grade Gramophone, with TEN magnificent 10in. Disc Record Selections, 200 Needles in polished equipment case, and all accessories insured and carriage paid to approved orders for 5/- NOW. The balance payable in nine monthly payments of 5/- if you are entirely satisfied with the machine and records after trial.

2/- in the £ Cash Discount.

FOOTBALL COMPETITION. No. 2.

SEE PAGE 423

"JOHN BULL" ENTRANCE FORM.

Matches to be played Saturday, September 27th.

Cross out—in ink—what you think will be the losing club. For a draw do not cross out either club.

Derby County	v.	**Bradford City**
Manchester United	v.	**Oldham A.**
Burnley	v.	**Chelsea**
Preston North End	v.	**Bolton Wanderers**
Newcastle United	v.	**Sheffield Wednesday**
Liverpool	v.	**West Bromwich A.**
Aston Villa	v.	**Everton**
Middlesbro'	v.	**Sunderland**
Tottenham H.	v.	**Manchester City**
Barnsley	v.	**Woolwich A.**
Bradford	v.	**Clapton Orient**
Bury	v.	**Notts Forest**
Leicester F.	v.	**Bristol City**
Notts County	v.	**Leeds City**
Wolverhampton W.	v.	**Birmingham**
Merthyr Town	v.	**Plymouth Argyle**
Queen's Park R.	v.	**West Ham**
Swindon	v.	**Reading**
Cardiff City	v.	**Crystal Palace**
Southend	v.	**Northampton**

I enter "JOHN BULL" Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed .....

Address .....

.....

Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

READ RULES CAREFULLY.

1. On the Entrance Form attached cross out in ink, by running a pen through the names, the teams you think will lose. If you predict a DRAW do not cross out either team.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to "JOHN BULL," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., mark envelope, in top left-hand corner, Football Competition No. 2, so as to reach us not later than first post Friday, September 26th, but please send early to facilitate the work of examination.

3. The First Prize £1,750 will be awarded to the competitor whose Entry Form contains the correct results, as published in the "Sporting Life," of all the matches given, played to a finish on September 27th. In the event of no entrance form being received giving the whole of the correct results, a cash prize of £500 will be paid to the competitor whose coupon shows the most correct results short of the full number. In addition £100 will be paid to the sender of the Entrance Form containing the next highest number of correct forecasts. Further £50 cash will be awarded to the lady sending the most correct forecasts on a mauve coupon taken from "Mary, Bull."

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort, and no correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted. But the utmost care will be taken of all coupons received.

5. The Editor's published decision on all matters relating to this competition is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.

6. Any effort on which any alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified. Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

7. In the event of a tie or ties in this competition, the First Prize of £1,750, or the Contingent Prizes of £500 and £100, as well as the special £50 Mauve Coupon prize for ladies, will be equally divided.

8. Our employees are strictly debarred from entering this contest.

9. No coupon bearing a Scottish address can be accepted.

THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th.

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XV. No. 381. Week ending Saturday, September 20th, 1913. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All **FINANCIAL, INSURANCE** *and* **SPORTING** *enquiries should be addressed to the* **CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.** *All other communications should be addressed to* **93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.**

All remittances, applications for advertising space, subscriptions, orders, etc., should be addressed to Odhams Limited, 93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C.

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of "John Bull" for SEPT. 13th, 1913, bearing on its Cover the Number 74,272.

Apply THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

The £10 offered for the copy of JOHN BULL dated September 6th and bearing the number 827,001, has been paid to—

MR. H. J. COOPER,
Whinwhistle, East Wellow,
Ramsey, Hants.

who duly forwarded to us the required copy.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

The General Election.

The timely reminder which we gave last week that the Plural Voting Bill cannot come into operation till 1915, and that it is being rushed through, under the Parliament Act, with an express view to the next General Election, has had the effect of scotching the talk about an impending dissolution. It may be taken as being as certain as anything in the world of politics can be, that his eyes are the only part of Mr. Bonar Law's anatomy which will be upon the Treasury Bench before the autumn of 1915.

Loreburn's Latest Lollypop.

What simpletons the public are! They are actually taking seriously Lord Loreburn's proposal for a Conference on the Home Rule question! Of course, the truth is that, having been jockeyed off the Woolsack he is no longer bound by the Party rules. He suddenly feels his conscience free. But, whilst he was Lord Chancellor, and whilst the Parliament Bill and the Home Rule Bill were before the Lords, there was no more bitter partisan, no more uncompromising protagonist of both measures, than the once robust and level-headed Bob Reid. *What* a game it is!

Another Conference?

The Conference will not be yet. It will come towards the end of 1915 or early in 1916, after the next General Election; and, as in the case of the Parliament Bill, will be suggested by the King, against whose exploitation, at this stage of the crisis, we protest on another page. But it will achieve nothing in the end. In a sentence, the row has to come; and only a Business Government will settle it.

So Sorry!

Of course, in common with the rest of the world, we are very sorry about that German airship fatality—or, if we are not, we must say we are! But, as we remarked upon the occasion of another German disaster a little while ago, it may be all for the best. Germany has to get used to this kind of thing.

"To The Day!"

Of course you know that the huge sum of forty millions, part of the war indemnity paid by France, has been kept intact by Germany *in gold* for the past forty years—during which period, if invested, it would have more than doubled itself. But do you also know that it has been decided to add another thirty millions to the hoard? Why? Just to show the Kaiser's pacific intentions towards us! Oh, ye Party prattlers of peace platitudes! *Be ready!*

Sorrow and Joy.

That is a strange, but, as we happen to know, a perfectly true, story which comes from Sunderland, of a poor miner's wife who received by one and the same post the news of the death of her mother and a cheque from Messrs. Smallman and Terry, of Geneva, for £2,000, which she had won, with a half-crown ticket, in their St. Leger Sweepstake. May the joy of the winners of the big prizes in the firm's JOHN BULL Football Cup Sweep be less alloyed!

Lewis, the Leg-Puller.

Mr. John Lewis—described as "the well-known Association football legislator," although we do not recollect having the pleasure of meeting him when we were in the House—has been telling a rare tale to an audience at a Bradford mission hall. Referring to newspaper sporting competitions, he stated that he had worked out the exact odds against naming twenty correct results and had found that in order to give this number of forecasts it would require two billion copies, and an expenditure of £9,346,756 on papers! We will not trouble to challenge Mr. Lewis to justify his ridiculous figures, and will simply mention that in one of our recent sporting competitions three readers succeeded in giving twenty correct results each—which should mean that our circulation should have gone up by six billion copies. And yet it still hovers round a modest million!

Huge Football Prizes Won. See Result of our First Contest on page 401.

Party Politics and the Voter.

The Revision Courts are busy once more with the Voters' Lists, and we have the Party agents again posing the dear old points and problems before the eminent barristers who, appointed at considerable cost to the community, have to decide them. For instance, think of a sane nation opening courts to listen to a Tory agent on the one side and a Liberal agent on the other arguing themselves as red as boiled lobsters on such conundrums as have been raised; to wit, whether at Chelsea a man removing from one floor of a house to another floor of the same house should lose his vote, and also whether a landlord who lives in one part of a house disfranchises by so doing the man who pays him rent for living in another part of the house! Instead of being anxious to give a vote to everybody capable of its intelligent exercise, the endeavour appears to be so to jerrymander the lists as to get as many as possible of one Party on and as many as possible of the other Party off. These Revision Courts are a system of costly political jiggery-pokery, and a Business Government would have got rid of them long ago.

Those British Consuls!

Both in the House of Commons and in these columns we have frequently called attention to the scandalous condition of the British Consulate service; and the following letter, from a Rotherham reader, is one more illustration of the need for reform:—"Overleaf is an extract from a letter I received on Sunday last from a friend who was shipwrecked on July 16th in the Floris Sea, 60 miles off Macassar, on the Isle of Celebes, where a boat was sent for assistance. I think the paragraph speaks for itself. As you are good at conundrums, perhaps you may know of what good the British Consul at Macassar is." And here is the extract referred to:—"When our fellows arrived at Macassar, they inquired for the British Consul and were told that that official resided in Surrey, England, and had not been to his office out here for a number of years. Do you think that it is worth a line to JOHN BULL?" Come along, Mr. Buxton!

Well Done, "Terriers"!

The results of the shooting competition recently engaged in by the Coast Defence units of the Territorial Artillery afford excellent reading. Of the eight competing companies, five were described by the umpires as first-class. It is stated that their work was quite as good as that of Regular artillerymen, and that the "figures of merit" obtained compared favourably with those of Regular Garrison companies, whose shooting has recently been tested in similar competitions. All of which shows that the "Terriers" are taking their soldiering seriously, and deserve something better than cheap sneers for their pains. The authorities, moreover, should recognise the unwisdom of "starving" so strenuous and promising a force.

Hospital Finance.

A Hove gentleman recently took a bunch of about 60 beautiful roses to the local dispensary, but on arriving at the doors he was amazed to find this notice: "Visitors are requested *not* to bring flowers in the future. Money put in the box will be spent on flowers for the wards.—In this way much waste of flowers and time will be avoided." He returned home with his roses. Hospital finance is frequently novel, but we hope the idea of spending money on flowers when people are willing to supply them for nothing is peculiar to the governing body of Hove Dispensary.

Shackleton's Post.

When Sir Ernest Shackleton went Antarcticwards he was officially appointed a postmaster, and was then handed a quantity of New Zealand stamps and other necessaries of the office. He first opened a post office in King Edward VII. Land and subsequently a branch at McMurdo Sound. The stamps over-printed "King Edward VII. Land" were used for all mails. They were priced by dealers, we are informed, at 25s. to 30s. unused and 6s. to 12s. used, according to condition. We are not aware of the circumstances in which Sir Ernest Shackleton was allowed to retain the surplus stock in his possession, but, whatever they were, he disposed of them in London to Mr. Field, a philatelist of Old Bond Street, who now offers them, much to the amazement of collectors who have paid a great deal more for them, at from 6s. 6d. to £1 1s. each. It seems queer that Sir Ernest's Antarctic stamp remainders were dealt with in this way, because in this country when a postmaster vacates his office he returns all his stock to the Government, or hands it over to his successor. Presumably, the New Zealand Postmaster-General gave Sir Ernest *carte blanche* in the matter, on the ground that the stamp issue was really a philatelic curiosity, and nothing more. In any case, it would be interesting to know what the New Zealand Government derived from the sale.

A Neglected Statute.

Certain magistrates are lamentably loth to exercise the discretionary powers accorded them by the Probation of Offenders' Act. By the terms of this statute, justices are expressly invited to pay merciful regard to a prisoner's character and antecedents. Yet, when John Glanville, a railway constable with ten years' excellent police conduct and a clean Army record to his credit, was charged before Mr. Francis with certain trifling thefts, he was shown no mercy, but promptly sentenced to three months' hard labour. The man had struggled to support seven children upon a wage of twenty-eight shillings per week. It was clear that the family had suffered acute distress and that the overwrought father had succumbed to sudden temptation. Justice, to say nothing of mercy, demands a revision of so inequitable a sentence.

Target Practice.

Far be it from us to interfere with the amusements of the King's Navee, but we take leave to point out that if an inoffensive Aberdeen Scot can't ha'e a game o' gowf without the risk of having his head blown off by the shots and shells of British warships it is about time he emigrated. The other day a man named Watson was taking his stance upon his native heath when a fragment of warshell ploughed it up for several yards, spoiling his shot and making him think of his past life. We shall presently have some gunner or other aiming at a distant German sausage and knocking Mr. Asquith, Mr. Churchill, and Mr. Lloyd George off their centre of gravity while they are in the throes of their final putts.

Courage and Hope.

In explanation of his forthcoming marriage to Miss Roberts of Llandaff, aged 20, the Rev. James Millar, the 74-year old Vicar of Great Bolas, in Shropshire, told his congregation on publishing the banns that "the union is for the benefit of this church and parish and that I may have a co-worker in holy things." There are advantages for the young lady also. She will be able to rely on the Vicar's counsel as she would that of her own grandfather.

£1,750 for Football. £650 Must be Won. Final Coupon this week.

An Explanatory Vicar.

When a politician opens his mouth and puts his foot in it he commonly blames the reporters for wickedly misguiding his steps. The Vicar of Cheshunt, the Rev. C. G. Law, is like unto him. At the recent burial of the victims of the Hoddesdon 'bus disaster, the rev. gentleman made a graveside address in the presence of "assembled thousands," in which he stated there was too much iniquity in their midst—of the varied kinds he enumerated—and added, "God is speaking to us, saying, 'Turn ye from your evil ways, for why will ye die?'" He now calls the representatives of the Press, who "tore the sentence ruthlessly from its context," "half-starved reporters" and "hungry wolves." He was making no special reference to the victims and their friends, says he; "God is calling upon men everywhere to repent," he adds. That we will concede; but it is hard to believe He is calling upon them to repent by the catastrophic process of killing their relatives and friends in omnibus collisions.

Vinous Arithmetic.

Here is the tale of a traveller: On a recent Thursday, a London "commercial" called at Yates's Wine Lodge, in Liverpool, ordered refreshment to the value of 5½d., put down a shilling for payment, and received from an attendant ½d. change. The error was pointed out to the attendant who received the change from the cashier, and sixpence was at once paid over to him. On the same day, the customer travelled from Liverpool to Bolton, and in the afternoon called at Yates's Wine Lodge there. On this occasion the value of his refreshment was 2d., for which he put down 2s., receiving in change 10d., but, as at Liverpool, the extra shilling was paid when the error was pointed out, the money having again passed through the hands of two employees. "Is it not remarkable?" asks our informant. It is. So remarkable that it leads to the suspicion that porous arithmetic on the part of the employees is a habit of mind rather than a defect of education.

For the Blackpool Police.

Complaint reaches us of the method of trading practised by the keepers of fruit stalls on certain private ground, open to the public, from the Blackpool promenade. We are informed that these stall-keepers quote their prices in half-pounds, but in such a way as to give buyers the impression that the price is per pound; "6d." and "lb.," for instance, being written very large, and "half" written very small, often indeed in pencil. Children especially are victimised, as they usually ask for a pound, and the stall-holders take their money and weigh out half-a-pound without saying a word. It will surely not be pretended by the Chief Constable that the fact of these people occupying privately-owned ground protects them in this practice? Perhaps the Town Clerk will tell the Chief exactly what to do.

"Conviction Without Proof."

Under this heading we recently referred to a decision given by Bailie Stirling at the Johnstone Police Court, near Paisley, whereby two men were convicted of the theft of a watch, there being no vestige of evidence that the watch had in fact been stolen. A local correspondent now directs our attention to the very doctrine of law to which we referred in our earlier paragraph—that "a person found in possession of goods recently stolen must satisfactorily account for his possession or be a presumed thief or receiver"—and he then goes on to imply that Bailie Stirling's decision was based on a similar doctrine. He has missed our whole point, which briefly is that the two prisoners had been convicted of larceny, there being no evidence whatsoever that the watch had been stolen by them *or by anyone else.*

Holy Hinckley.

Apparently the efforts of Parliament (or that part which sits on the right of the Speaker in the Commons) to improve the morals of the country are taking root. And the Hinckley Library Committee should be congratulated on its attempt to make its town, which rejoices in the sobriquet of "Tin Hat," a bright example to the rest of the community. One of our readers, who had the misfortune to have to wait ten minutes in this desolate spot the other day, turned into the Free Library as the only alternative to the public-house. On picking up a journal he was somewhat surprised to see a piece of white paper stuck on one page, but he came to the conclusion that it was a part of the postal wrapper. On picking up another paper, however, he again saw the white paper, whereupon he made an examination of all the journals in the room, and found that on each one the racing and betting news had been carefully covered up by the pasting over it of neat little strips. What a grand moral atmosphere this town of 12,000 inhabitants must have; what a suitable place for the Rev. F. B. Meyer to spend his last days in, and—how glad we are not to have to live there!

"Postal Slow Coaches."

Several postal officials in different parts of the country wish to say a word or two apropos of our recent remarks headed "Postal Slow Coaches." One protest samples many. "To say the letter could easily have been dispatched by the 7.10 or 7.15 train only shows the ignorance of the writer as to the rules of the Express Service. The only advantage of this service is to facilitate delivery at the town of arrival, *i.e.*, delivery by telegraph messenger instead of by postman. The missive does not leave the town of posting any earlier than the ordinary mail. Had your correspondent troubled to inquire, he would have been informed of this. In order to ensure dispatch by the first train a railway fee of 2d. is charged and a telegram sent to the postmaster of the town of destination requesting that a messenger may be sent to meet the train." In other words, express delivery is not express dispatch. Now we have it.

Prudes on the Prowl.

Evidently the new aspiration of Birmingham is to become one of the holier cities. The latest is that a child of eleven years of age, playing in a sketch at the local Hippodrome, is discovered on the (stage) seashore in a bathing dress—over other garments, look you—after the manner of a well-known poster. This costume, which could not give offence to anyone of clean mind, was objected to by the police or some other public authority, the result being that the child has had to wear a frock during the performances, utterly spoiling a pretty picture. Many of the chief cities and towns in the kingdom have seen the sketch unabashed and unblushing. Birmingham alone sees evil in it through the prurient eye, Mrs. Grundy having gone to live there.

Censored.

We don't quite know what Mr. Maxwell's book is all about, but the fact that the libraries have bought all the copies they at present need, at library prices, and, while refusing to display or volunteer the information that they have a lot of it concealed on the premises, say they are willing to supply it to all who ask for it, suggests that they are trying to set their customers whispering to one another that it is really an awfully naughty book. It looks to us like a new dodge of the advertising experts.

Have you done the Hat Trick yet? All about it page 430.

"Sacked" During Illness.

After reading the evidence given in the City of London Court, the clerks of Messrs. Ward, Bowie, Porter and Co., solicitors, of 7, King Street, Cheapside, will probably realise how foolish they will be to become ill. The firm's Costs' Clerk was unwell in the early part of the year for three months, during which period they gave him leave of absence on salary, and then ent him a month's notice to assist his convalescence. It was a bit of good luck for the clerk that they did not legally time the notice to finish after the expiration of the leave they had given him, as a firm of persons advising others in the law would be expected to do; hence the clerk won his action. As he had admittedly given them 15 years of faithful service, it was surely hard to use the occasion of a leave of absence they had given him in illness as an opportunity to get rid of him altogether. Obviously, the kindest of employers is frequently unable to do all that he would wish in such a case by the necessities of his own circumstances, but certainly there is no considerate employer in the position of this firm who would have served an old servant quite in the way they did. It was rather like kicking a man not only while down, but while he was unable to get up.

All On Account of Fanny.

The fat is in the fire at Honiton—all on account of Miss Fanny White, daughter of the late Rate Collector, being appointed on his resignation Assistant Overseer, Rate Collector, and Collector of Water Rents, over the heads of five other applicants of the sex which i n't hers. Suggestions of sinister method are made; for instance, that the father would not have resigned unless he had been previously assured that his daughter would be appointed; that the post was filled before it was vacant by pledges given to him on his own personal canvass among members of the Council; and that the advertising for applications was all bunkum. If this is true, it is discreditable, and the members of the Honiton Town Council, or, at any rate, those who are concerned in the transaction, ought to be ashamed of themselves. It is not the high discharge of a public duty; on the contrary, it is jerrymandering and jiggery-pokery.

Another Peril.

Most of us have regarded train communication cords with something of awe and with a deep-rooted impression that a tug at the chain or cord would be followed by startling consequences. The theory, of course, is that the pulling of the cord automatically applies the vacuum brakes and brings the train to a standstill. In practice, however, the matter appears to be far less simple, it being stated at a recent inquest on a boy who fell from a L.N.W. train that the repeated pulling of the cord produced no effect whatever, and that the train did not slacken speed till it drew up at Preston Station, eleven miles from the scene of the accident. There seems to be a clamant need for a business-like department, charged with no other duty than that of compelling railway corporations to take elementary precautions for the protection of their passengers.

It's Weight that Tells.

Some of the hackney carriage drivers in Scarborough have our deep sympathy. They have been fined for carrying a greater number of passengers than their vehicles are licensed for—although it was clearly shown that the overplus were children, and that no additional charge was made for them. If the horse could be consulted upon the subject, he would doubtless say that not number, but weight, should be the criterion!

"Blessed Be Ye Poor!"

Here are a few reverend gentlemen who do not seem to have attached much importance to the above text, or to the "camel and eye of needle" warning. With the exception of the last two, they are all culled from one morning's "Latest Wills." The Very Rev. Sir J. Cameron Lees, St. Giles, Kingussie, Inverness-shire, left £27,068; Rev. Percival George Willoughby, £26,051; Rev. Marmaduke Alan Prickett, Junior Conservative Club, Albemarle Street, £10,167; Rev. Chas. Edward Bentley, College Green, Gloucestershire, £10,194; Rev. Canon Lavid Bruce Payne, Deal, £10,363; Rev. George Feather, Vicar of Glazebury, £13,927; Rev. Henry Brembridge, Winkleigh, Devonshire, £34,015. Apropos of the last instance, we recall that we were once staying at a Devonshire farmhouse very near Winkleigh. An old labourer had "got religion" badly, and was dilating on the "camel and eye of needle" text to a band of fellow farm-hands. "It's like this here now," he declared. "It's a harder job for a rich man to enter the kingdom of Heaven than it would be for farmer Trott's old speckled cow to go out in the plantation, clim' up that there high ulum (elm) tree and 'calvey' in the crow's nest." As up to now we have not heard that Farmer Trott's cow has managed to perform that difficult feat, we presume that none of the above-named reverend gentlemen need trouble to order in their coals for the winter.

A Pernicious Practice.

At the recent Summer Quarter Sessions at Leeds the Recorder strongly condemned the practice whereby the police obtain information from persons about to be taken into custody. "I think it is wrong myself," he said, "and I quite agree with Mr. Justice Avory with regard to anything like the cross-examination of persons who are about to be taken into custody. . . . Anything like cross-examination, in the way of asking a person who is practically in custody if he did this, that, or the other, is, to my mind, altogether wrong, and so far as I am concerned I shall always set my face against it." Such a statement does credit to the learned Recorder, but in view of the prevalence of the practice which he condemns, the Law of Evidence should be amended so as to exclude statements so improperly obtained. While on the subject of police evidence, is not it time that officers informing a judge of a prisoner's record should be made to confine themselves to his recorded convictions, all *ex parte* statements and expressions of opinion being rigorously barred?

Too Late.

In a recent explosion at the steel works of Messrs. Walter Scott, Ltd., of Leeds, nine men lost their lives. At the subsequent inquest the report of a Factory Inspector was produced. This officer appears to have visited the works after the accident and to have then discovered that the plates of the boiler were weak and thin, and needed immediate renewal. We have no doubt the firm will give instant effect to the Inspector's recommendation, but how much better it would have been if that report had come before instead of after the accident, when it might have saved nine precious lives! The present system of selecting Factory Inspectors has been sturdily defended by the Home Office, but we sometimes doubt if this vital work is in quite the right hands.

Voltaire on Party.

"I should be enamoured of the spirit of the English nation did it not utterly frustrate the good effects it would produce by passion and the spirit of Party."—(*Candide*, chap. xxv.).

Result of our First Football Contest. See page 401.

The Rose, the Thistle, and the——

During an examination in a young ladies' school in Bristol the other day, the children were asked, "What is the national emblem of Wales?" "The Leech," promptly replied one of the girls. Though she had evidently forgotten the correct name of the vegetable, the leech as a Welsh national emblem is well worth the serious consideration of the natives. We are, therefore, communicating with Mr. Lloyd George at Criccieth, with the object of inducing him to summon the chiefs of the clans to consider the young lady's brilliant inspiration.

The Week's "Chestnut."

The mature experience of our Eastney reader that there is no *bad* beer—"though certainly some is not quite so good as others"—is somewhat supported by an anecdote related of a farmer and his harvesters. A barrel of ale, somewhat "off," was presented by their employer to the workers in the fields. Upon the master seeing the foreman later and asking what the men thought of it, he was met with the reply: "It was just right, sir." The farmer naturally inquired, "What do you mean by 'just right'?" "Well, sir, it was this way," replied the man, "if it had been any worse we couldn't have drunk it; and if it had been any better we shouldn't have had it"!

RESULT OF OUR FIRST GREAT FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

That the advent of the great winter game has been eagerly welcomed by sporting enthusiasts is clearly proved by the enormous number of coupons forwarded in connection with our inaugural Football Competition. Again the contest was a most exciting one, the £1,500 prize being missed by a single point, while the same narrow margin divided the three principal winners. These are:—

Mr. JAMES TREVOR, 4, Varna Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham,

who gave **NINETEEN** *correct results, and therefore receives the handsome prize of* **£300;**

Mr. H. BOYD, 15, Musgrave Terrace, Washington, County Durham,

who accurately forecast **EIGHTEEN,** *and takes the* **£150** *offered to the next competitor; while*

Mrs. W. TILSTON, 120, Raffles Road, Birkenhead, and **Mrs. J. WREN, 16, Delamere Villas, Ramsgate,**

halve the **£100** *offered to the competitor sending in the* **BEST FORECAST ON A MAUVE COUPON** *cut from "Mary Bull," both ladies having correctly given* **SEVENTEEN** *results.*

The following sixteen readers supplied **SIXTEEN** *accurate results, and have been awarded* **SEASON TICKETS FOR ANY FOOTBALL GROUND** *they may select:—*

Mr. G. T. ANDERS, 58, Tennyson Road, Portsmouth.
Mr. GODFREY W. CLARKE, 68, Golbourne Road, North Kensington, W.
Mr. W. F. CORBEY, Morley House, Mansfield Road, Nottingham.
Mr G. C. FRAMPTON, Tower House, Street, Somerset.
Mr. JNO. C. GRIFFITHS, 9, Queen's Street, Wrexham, North Wales.
Mr. F. W. JACKSON, 133, Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton.
Mr. PERCY M. KAY, 171, Henrietta Street, Old Trafford, Manchester.
Mr. C. LIDIARD, Manchester Road, Warrington.
Mr. WM. MORRISON, Woodend, Strabane, Ireland.
Mr. BEN PEART, 47, Rendel Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Mr. W. STAPLES, 122, Woodbourn Road, Sheffield.
Mr. C. THOMPSON, c.o. Mr. G. COWLING, 26, Lockwood Street, Monksgate, York.
Mr. W. J. TILSTON, 126, Raffles Road, Birkenhead.
Mr. TOM WALKER, 4, Court, Eyre Lane Sheffield.
Mr. C. H. WILLIAMS, 21, Rosslyn Road, Newport, Mon.
Mr. R. G. WRIGHT, 52, Wymering Road, North End, Portsmouth.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

["*Taking the Biscuit*" *has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.*]

For stating in an article on the "Doncaster Carnival" that: "In the matter of butter-scotch alone a gigantic business is done. . . . ONE FIRM ALONE, *as the writer can state on authority, are in the habit of* SELLING 60,000 TONS *of butter-scotch during the four days"*

THE YORKSHIRE EVENING POST
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of the charges following the recent Dublin rioting that: "Constable 89A *said he was also in Sackville Street on the occasion and* HEARD *James Larkin* GESTICULATING *on the balcony. He* SAW *the crowd, consisting of* 300 *people,* CHEERING *for Larkin,"*

THE DUBLIN EVENING MAIL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of a recent storm that: "The flashes of RAIN *were very vivid,"*

THE NORTHERN CONSTITUTION
(COLERAINE)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a letter to the "Church Times," that when that journal allowed him "to record a visit to a little church devoid of any musical instrument . . . an excellent HARMONIUM ARRIVED *by return of* POST,"

THE REV. L. BEVAN (Archdeacon of Brecon)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a leader on the recent Aisgill disaster that: "WHILST STATIONARY, *the express leaving the Cumberland capital for the Metropolis twelve minutes after the first* DASHED INTO *the waiting train with disastrous effects,"*

THE EVENING STAR & DAILY HERALD
(IPSWICH)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "David Billington, the Lancashire swimmer, is meeting Oscar E. Dickman, of Australia, for the title of mile champion of the world. The race takes place over a course of 110 MILES *at Bury,"*

THE EVENING CITIZEN (Glasgow)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "About 1.30 *this morning residents of Mulhausen were alarmed by an outbreak of fire in four different parts of the village. Men, women, and children tumbled out of bed to save their lives and property.* THE FIRST *to reach the street observed a man with a black mask and a flimsy veil over his face attempting to push his way through the* CROWD,"

THE BERLIN CORRESPONDENT OF THE
DAILY MAIL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of the accident to the Zeppelin L1, *in which sixteen perished, that: "This is the* BIGGEST *airship disaster that has* EVER *occurred . . . indeed,* IN NO PREVIOUS AIRSHIP DISASTER HAS THE DEATH-ROLL BEEN NEARLY SO GREAT," *following these statements with a table showing: "*1912—*July 28th, Schwaben (Zeppelin) wrecked.* THIRTY *German soldiers* KILLED,"

THE DAILY MIRROR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

HALF-A-CROWN FOR EVERY "BISCUIT" PUBLISHED

We give 2s. 6d. to the sender of every "Biscuit" published. Should the same item be forwarded by several competitors, preference will be given to the one whose letter is first opened. In forwarding newspaper cuttings, sufficient must be sent to identify the name of the paper and date of issue. Envelopes must be addressed to "The Biscuit Editor."

Are you Collecting the "John Bull" Pen Coupons? If not, start this week

DON'T PLAY THE KING!

DESPERATE DEVICE OF THE PARTY PLAYERS——SHAMELESS ATTEMPT TO DRAG HIS MAJESTY INTO THE POLITICAL GAME.

It is necessary to speak plainly about this latest development in the unwholesome game of Party politics. When *The Times* gives prominent publication to a suggestion that, in order to thwart the machinations of the Ministry, the King should trample the British Constitution under foot, and, disregarding the advice of his responsible Ministers, should take it upon himself to direct the course of parliamentary procedure—either by dissolving Parliament itself or withholding the Royal Assent to measures which it has passed; when such a proposal is thrown out, as a "feeler," by a responsible and distinguished politician, who is at the same time a leading member of the legal profession; and when the cry is taken up by a section of the popular press and is also made the text of Party speeches in all parts of the country—when, we say, these things happen, it is time that some journal with access to the public ear should call a halt in the mad campaign, and remind the country that we are supposed to live under a constitutional and not an autocratic monarchy, and that the occupant of the British throne is to all intents and purposes nothing more than the hereditary President of the British Republic—bound to give effect by Sign Manual to the policy of his Parliament for the time being, whatever it may be. So far as the Crown itself is concerned, there is no need to emphasise this fact. No dynasty has been more loyal to its subjects than the House of Hanover.

The Example of King Edward.

And we are absolutely certain that our present King—long may he reign!—will, in all things appertaining to the functions of his high office, follow the splendid example of his father, who, during a crisis even more acute than that which now threatens the land, revealed such a true conception of kingly duty as to strengthen enormously the foundations of the throne—and at a time, too, when they were seriously endangered by the indirect challenge of the whole hereditary principle which was involved by the attack on the old prerogative of the Peers. The things King Edward did, and the things he said, during that memorable crisis will probably never be known to the world at large. But some of us know some of them. Apart from what reached us in various ways, those of us who sat in the Parliament of 1906-10, and came into daily contact with his Majesty's Ministers in general, and with his Prime Minister in particular; and those who, like ourselves, sat aloof from all Parties, and, to a remarkable degree, enjoyed the confidence of each—learnt many things which never came to the knowledge of the people, and which left in our minds the picture of a sorely harassed Ministry, driven by the exigencies of the Party system to the brink of a vast precipice, with the British Constitution on its shoulders—and held back solely by the strong hand, invisible to the public eye, of the Man on the Throne. And is there any impropriety, at this distance of time, in repeating what King Edward was reported to have said, at a memorable interview with the Prime Minister?

> *"It is my pleasure that my name should not be dragged into this controversy. I am the servant of my people. What they will, that will I do. And I look to Parliament to reflect that will."*

And, equally, King George is entitled to say, "Make clear to me the people's will, *but keep my name out of it.*"

But there is another aspect of the matter. Whilst the Government is entitled to claim that the decisions of Parliament are the authorised expression of the people's will, the very fact that the King is bound so to regard them imposes on the Ministry the duty, in honour to itself and in loyalty to the King, of not abusing its temporary power over legislation, especially with the aid of the recent Act, by forcing through measures involving important alterations of the existing laws and constitution of the country, without being quite sure that it is not going in opposition to public opinion. To do so would be an absolute violation of the principles of representative, democratic government, and a gross imposition upon the King. It was a candid recognition of this principle which led Mr. Asquith to have a second General Election within a year, before persevering with the Parliament Bill. And, honourable man that he is, it will also lead him to seek an appeal to the country before the Home Rule Bill becomes effective.

Mr. Asquith's Dilemma.

But here comes the difficulty. He is the creature of a corrupt system of Party Government which binds him hand and foot. With no independent working majority in the House of Commons, he has been compelled to enter into a compact with Mr. Redmond and his friends, in order to be sure of keeping office. And the price is definite and unalterable. It is that, before relinquishing their posts, the Cabinet will *place upon the Statute Book the Home Rule Bill.* Let there be no misunderstanding about it. That is the bargain—*and it will be kept.* But it is not really so serious as it sounds. By means of a subtle Party device, ample provision is made, in the terms of the Bill itself, for allowing an appeal to the people before the measure, although on the Statute Book, can become law. The theory, of course, is that the period of suspense provided for between the passing of the Bill and the setting up of an Irish Parliament is necessary for the completion of various preliminary arrangements. That, however, is all bunkum. *It is Mr. Asquith's way of keeping faith with the King.* When his Majesty signs the Home Rule Act he will know that before it can come into operation his people will have an opportunity of expressing their opinion. What will happen after they have done so, we will endeavour to indicate later on.

The King's Position.

It will thus be seen that, whatever happens, the position of the King is unaffected. His personal influence is thrown on neither one side nor the other; although, following the example of his father, he is exerting his great personal influence in the direction of peaceful compromise. And that is why we protest against the suggestion, made in all earnestness by one of the contending Parties, that, at this juncture, he should step in, and, on his own initiative, dissolve Parliament. That he has the legal power to do so, we all know—just as he could decline to give his assent to any Bill passed by both Houses of Parliament. But in these days kings retain their powers by not exercising them; and they are bad friends of the monarchy who counsel any departure from this rule. In a sentence, the King is a card which should never be played in the game called Party Politics. After all, the cards which really count are only two—the Knave and the Joker.

A "DOWNY" SWANN.

THINGS—AND PEOPLE—THAT THEY "DO" IN BRIGHTON.

On paper modestly headed "*Messrs.* G. H. Swann and Co., Auctioneers and Estate Agents, 7, Upper Gardner Street, Brighton," a person signing himself "George H. Swann" is sending out a circular offering to explain to anybody who can "predict just three matches correctly" how he can "win for certain" the first prize in all the football competitions run by the press. Although the auctioneering business is stated to have been established in 1878, the partner in it—presumably the senior, as it is apparently named after him—has, he states, been able to find time to "check all past results of every League match played for the past six years," and "had to check over 4,000 matches and had to do so without an error and show wins, losses, and draws and replays of every match." With this "enormous worry," as he puts it, he was "able to immediately see how it was possible to make predictions certain for twelve matches on any one coupon." His idea is that the remaining results should be supplied by the person he addresses. For the secret of his patent method of obtaining a dozen "certs." Swann charges 50s., stating that he will sell it to a hundred persons only. On the principle of "tasting before you buy," he offers on receipt of 5s. deposit to give a sample. We do not, however, advise anybody to send a "dollar" for the dozen. If it were all it is represented to be, Swann would, of course, keep it to himself. Moreover, we are not impressed by this "old-established" professional business. The letter-paper states "Bankers: London Union and Smiths, Ltd." We know of no such institution. If the Union of London and Smiths be intended, it is strange that Swann should not know the name of the concern by which the doubtless colossal account of his firm is kept. Again, Upper Gardner Street is situated in one of the poorest parts of Brighton, where no auctioneer would be expected to carry on business. The ground floor of No. 7 is a small and shabby sweetstuff shop, over which Mr. and Mrs. Swann rent a single room. It is not surprising that the premises bear no indication that an estate agency is carried on there. Although a searcher after Truth called three times to see the unselfish fortune-finder he was unsuccessful, Mrs. Swann ultimately informing the modern Diogenes that her husband did not wish to see him, preferring that all his business should be transacted through the post. It is not surprising to find, on inquiry, that none of the circulars have been sent to Brighton residents. Prophets and philanthropists appear to suffer in common among their fellow-townsmen.

CLERGYMAN AND CAD.

A SPIRIT-SOAKED SPIRITUAL SOT.

The Rev. Arthur Wellesley Batson, of Severn House, Watchet, Somerset, is a disgrace to his profession. His latest exploit occurred a few days ago, and as the facts were not fully reported we propose giving them publicity. Coming up to London, Mr. Batson engaged a taxi, and ordered the driver to go to London Street, Paddington. He broke the journey in Holborn for the purpose of having a "tonic," asking the driver of the taxi to have a drink also. Once inside the public-house the rev. gent. met kindred spirits, with the result that he had *several* tonics. After waiting close upon half-an-hour, the driver re-entered the bar and told the parson that the amount of the fare was running up; whereupon the holy one became very angry—so much so, that a constable was called and he was locked up and charged with being drunk and disorderly. Subsequently he was fined 1s., the doctor's fee of 7s. 6d., and ordered to pay 6s. to the cabman. The magistrate was not informed that Batson had been convicted upon a former occasion for drunkenness, nor was he acquainted with the fact that this pub-loafing parson was found guilty of cruelty to a child, and bound over to be of good behaviour for a year, which feat he failed to accomplish—it being only eleven months since he received that sentence. Cannot the Church Missionary Society find him a job in the Cannibal Islands?

MARGATE VISITORS, BEWARE!

A WORD WITH THE CHIEF CONSTABLE.

There were some revelations in the Goldberg case at the Margate Petty Sessions which demand, if they have not already received, the particular attention of the Chief Constable. That this man Goldberg carries on his auctioneering business in Queen Street according to the tradition of his kind—that is to say, by inducing foolish persons to buy things they do not want, at a cost several times above their value—is obvious. Without a question, one of the glib orators of Goldberg induced the lady in the case to make a silly purchase by paying him 25s. for an alleged 18ct. gold watch not worth more than a fifth of the price; without a question, also, Goldberg scandalously insulted and assaulted her, her daughter and her husband, when subsequently they went in turn to complain—with excusable vehemence, it may be—of the way they had been imposed on, and to demand the return of the money. The man acted so much like a brute and a blackguard, as he probably is, that the wonder is he was not locked up at the time. In the plainest terms we ask, is this man Goldberg, and other tricksters of his trade in Margate, under the special and peculiar care of the members of the local force? As that question needs justification, we justify it by the inference which, unless we deceive ourselves, will be drawn by all those who read the evidence. When the disturbances and assaults following the imposition practised upon the lady occurred, the policeman outside appears to have been at the beck and call of the proprietor, and throughout acted in the dual capacity of Goldberg's lackey and protector. When the woman complained of her "bargain" in the presence of Goldberg's customers and hired bidders, Goldberg first abused her and assaulted her, and then ran to the policeman, who promptly hustled her outside. When her husband went to Goldberg's place, Goldberg brutally attacked him from behind somebody else, but the policeman refused to arrest the aggressor, though he was standing near and blood was pouring down the victim's face. His eyes, he says, were momentarily averted; but when the crowd grew threatening and Goldberg looked like going home without a shirt, the policeman asserted his majestic presence for Goldberg's personal protection, "fearing a disturbance."

Considering these facts, it would be as interesting alike to the permanent inhabitants as to visitors to know whether there are any more policemen in Margate equal to this astonishing sample, and, if there are, whether the Chief of Police will relegate them to the Natural History Museum.

PANEL PRACTITIONER'S PLIGHT.

"PAY AS YOU WOULD BE PAID!"

News reaches us from several quarters that the panel doctors are not getting paid. This is the end of the second quarter, and at the moment they haven't got a cent. At least, a whole crowd of the poor devils who need it most haven't, and in our opinion it is scandalous. Here's a case Lincolnshire way. The doctor is in a sort of a hole, with nothing but farmers and cottagers to depend on at the best. For six months he has had no money for the work he has done; and there's a wife and some kiddies to keep, and house rent to pay, and the Rate Collector and the Gas Collector to satisfy, and he has had to get into debt with the butcher, and the baker, and the grocer. When the doctor's wife writes about it, all she gets is a typewritten letter in this wise:—"Treasury Chambers, Whitehall, August 23rd, 1913. Dear Madam,—I am desired by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th inst. Yours faithfully, J. T. Davies." Not a syllable of regret. Not a word of explanation. Not a sentence of hope. Merely a curt, "You are a lady, but be damned to you." That's what it amounts to, and it won't do even in a Chancellor of the Exchequer. Nobody will consent to pay him £5,000 a year, and leave him to help himself regularly once every quarter, for that kind of thing. "Pay as you would be paid," should be his motto.

Winners of our Free Football Season Tickets. See page 401.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE CHORUS GIRL.

WHAT SHE IS SUPPOSED TO BE——WHAT SHE IS.

BY A LATE THEATRICAL CHORISTER.

This being the dullest season of the year for newspapers and periodicals to obtain copy of an interesting character for their patrons, it is often considered advisable to start a discussion on some sensational topic that will fill columns and prove entertaining reading.

The dish which is being served up to us too freely at the moment is the much-talked-of and maligned Chorus Girl. She has been through the mill before, and has been diagnosed from time to time; but we appear to be still undecided as to whether or not she is a decent member of Society or a necessary evil.

Blind Leading Blind

An article, "Are Chorus Girls Vampires?" in a contemporary a short time ago started the ball rolling again; a daily paper shortly afterwards published a whole column on the Chorus Girl by "One Who Knows" (?), and a few days later a third journal found the subject sufficiently tempting to smother London with its contents bill, "Vampires in the Chorus." The latter journal, after stating, "This is the burning question of the moment," is good enough to say: "We have an open mind on the question, but we should like to hear our readers' opinions, and give 10s. for each letter published." A fine opportunity for wealth and fame for budding journalists, and cheap copy for the paper. Judging from the statements made by the writers on the subject, it is obvious that they are hopelessly at sea as to the actual definition of a professional Chorus Girl and what the conditions of professional life really are. In fact, the majority of the public outside the theatrical and musical professions are absolutely misled by the statements of those who are ignorant as to the accomplishments and ability necessary for those ladies who really *are* Chorus Girls.

The object of this article, which is written by one who has been connected for years with the musical profession and has relatives and friends who are or who have been Chorus Girls, is to lay before its readers the facts concerning the early musical training necessary for them, and to expose the scandalous and lying statements which are so often made about them.

Singing for Her Own—and Others'—Suppers.

I do not propose to go into the question as to whether the Chorus Girl is absolutely devoid of domesticity, or whether she is as capable of making a steak pudding or darning socks as are her sisters who have not adopted a professional career. Her sphere in life is to earn her own living, and I know of many cases where she is the bread-winner of the family. Many a widowed mother is to-day being supported by the hard earnings of her talented daughter in the chorus. Many a fatherless child is being brought up by the mother who, being left in reduced circumstances, turns her early musical training to account by singing in the chorus.

As a rule, ninety-nine out of a hundred who describe themselves as "Chorus" Girls are nothing of the kind, and have no more right to the title than a hawker of matches has to call himself a timber merchant. A few years ago a woman in a provincial town was charged with being drunk and disorderly at midnight—she described herself as a Chorus Girl engaged in the pantomime at the leading theatre. It turned out, on enquiry, that she was what is known in the profession as an "Extra Lady," who was engaged at the theatre at a few shillings a week to wear a soldier's uniform for a few minutes each evening. Her knowledge of chorus singing, I imagine, would be limited to Bacchanalian choruses sung in the company of her friends. A considerable number of women when suddenly (for more reasons than one) asked to give an account of themselves and their vocation in life describe themselves as "Chorus Girls"—they are not even content with the profession of "actress." Many also, if they are engaged at a theatre as a programme seller or cloakroom attendant, prefer the description "Chorus Girl." There are also a large number engaged at our leading West End musical comedy theatres who earn big salaries for merely "walking on," wearing fascinating gowns, showing fine limbs and accomplishments which appeal greatly to the gilded youth in front, thus making their engagement absolutely necessary to secure the success of the show from a managerial point of view. These ladies are *not* Chorus Girls—and they would not be tolerated for a moment in any decent opera. They have, in the majority of cases, had absolutely no musical or professional training, and, from an artistic point of view, cannot be recognised.

Here is where the fallacy of the whole thing comes in—the writers of the articles to which I take positive objection all agree that Chorus Girls "are drawn mostly from poor homes and surroundings," and that it is the "champagne and limelight" which eventually upsets them.

Notes—and Bank Notes.

Are they aware that the musical and general education of a *legitimate* Lady Chorister is a costly one, and to equip properly a girl for the musical profession costs the head of the family as much as it does to educate a son for a professional career? A girl at the age of about 18 years, if she has a good voice and ability, decides to enter the musical profession—she takes lessons from a teacher, which probably costs her from £3 3s. to £4 4s. a term; if her voice shows promise she decides to place herself under a leading professor at one of the Academies of Music. The fees alone for this would cost her from £30 to £40 per annum, as, in addition to taking singing lessons as the principal study, she has to take up other subjects in order to obtain a complete musical education. As a rule this curriculum consists of piano, elocution, foreign languages and operatic training. In addition to the expense of lessons, girls living from home have to pay for their board and lodging while studying, and at the end of the period, about three years, unless she has gained a scholarship, her education has cost about £300.

She then embarks on her career and commences to seek engagements, and here is where the trouble begins—she soon finds that the profession is over-crowded, and that without unlimited funds or influence it is almost impossible to obtain a lucrative engagement. After, perhaps, months of weary waiting, she hears of vacancies in the chorus at a certain theatre, and, having had operatic training, she makes application and gets an appointment at a salary of about £2 a week. If she gets into a good company where talent alone counts she will soon succeed, but the trouble is that choristers have no chance in modern comic opera. The piffle which has to be sung does not show the art of the trained chorus singer. Its chief object is to introduce the principals on to the stage and give opportunities for the so-called "beauty choruses" and tremendously-built ladies to chant a few phrases in unison, accompanied by appropriate gestures. The true type of Chorus Lady can be found at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden (where they probably have to sing in three languages), and in the D'Oyly Carte, Moody Manners and Carl Rosa Opera companies.

Pricking the Champagne Bubble.

As to the champagne suppers and stage-door appointments we hear so much about, only those who have actually been associated with lady Choristers—and not those who think they have—know how ridiculous and imaginative the whole thing is.

The kind of life attributed to them by so many would not be tolerated for a moment at any decent theatre—neither would it be possible for them to do their work properly under such conditions. A Chorus Girl's life is in many respects a hard one, and she must prove herself at all times to be thoroughly competent. She is also subject to a voice trial at any moment, and if found wanting she would soon lose her position.

The genuine Chorus Lady is not "dragged up from the gutter"—neither is she a "vampire," and it is unfair that she should be classed with those who could not discuss a bar of music to save their lives, and who do not know the difference between a crotchet and a cauliflower.

THE TWO VOICES.

SIR ORACLE MASTERMAN, CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

A West London correspondent furnishes us with a somewhat Gilbertian illustration of the lack of business aptitude which has characterised the administration of the National Insurance Scheme. He is a professional shorthand writer, in which capacity he renders part-time service to a number of firms, while his evenings are spent in newspaper reporting and in shorthand tuition. From no single one of these employments does his annual income amount to £160, although the total of his various emoluments considerably exceeds this figure in the course of a year. He is obviously entitled to exemption from the compulsory operation of the Act. Yet, despite vigorous and sustained protest, he has been compelled to submit to compulsory insurance, the Commissioners having apparently failed to grasp the simple facts of his position which we have here set out. So far there is little enough humour in the situation. Our correspondent, annoyed by the obtuseness or heedlessness of the authorities, and tired of futile controversy, determined to get the matter raised in the House of Commons. He clearly defined the issue to Mr. Worthington Evans, M.P., who, in due course, addressed a question to the oleaginous gentleman who, by favour of the Chancellor, presides over the destinies of our insured millions. Mr. Masterman was asked :—

> Whether a journalist who is also a shorthand writer, a reporter of sermons on Sunday, and also gives tuition in shorthand, is compulsorily insurable because he also acts, at a remuneration of £104 a year, for a few hours a day, as a shorthand writer to a firm of engineers, and at what rate per annum the Insurance Commissioners calculate the equivalent of £60 a year, for two hours' work per day, which he receives from another employer; whether, further, a shorthand writer, for the purpose of the Act, is deemed to be a manual labourer, and, if such a person is not compulsorily insurable, why the Commissioners object to issue an exemption certificate?

We believe no such certificate to be necessary, our correspondent being clearly beyond the scope of the Act. Here is the Chief Commissioner's reply :—

> The person referred to in the question would not be compulsorily insurable in respect of his employment by the firm of engineers, since employment as a shorthand writer is not employment by way of manual labour, and a payment of £60 a year, for two hours' work per day, would be regarded as equivalent to a rate of remuneration exceeding £160 a year for whole-time service.

It will be seen that this gracefully phrased statement embodies the very facts which our correspondent had for months been endeavouring to drub into the Commissioners.

"The person referred to" at once despatched a copy of the Chief Commissioner's pronouncement to his colleagues in Buckingham Gate, urging them to reconsider their former decision in the light of so authorised a pronouncement. Faced with so delicious a dilemma, these gentlemen have taken refuge in silence, repeated requests having failed to elicit the courtesy of a reply. Meanwhile, our correspondent is an "insured person" by compulsion of the Commissioners, the chief of whom has publicly pronounced such compulsion illegal. Was there ever prettier folly?

AN IMPUDENT IMPOSTOR.

TURF "INTELLIGENCE" FROM A CHANDLER'S SHOP.

A person calling himself M. Hudson, giving as his address 5, Noel Street, London, W., is despatching by the halfpenny post a circular in which he claims to be able to advise clients how to invest on the Turf so that it is impossible to lose. No. 5, Noel Street, is a small chandler's shop, where letters are taken in for a trivial fee. So cocksure is the tuckshop tipster that he states, "If you have only one account open, I should advise you to open another with as little delay as possible, as if you land one man with too many winners all at once he will be sure to turn you down." For the secret method of breaking bookmakers Hudson charges the trifling sum of ten guineas. We should hardly think that any sane person would send a "tenner" for Hudson's humbug, but evidently the "prophet" believes that the "bread" he has cast upon the water will result in a capture of flat fish.

CONDEMNED UNHEARD.

SUSSEX MAGISTRATES' IMPROPER ACTION.

The Littlehampton Justices, in their wisdom, appear to have reversed the usual order of magisterial procedure. They recently disposed of a serious charge of assault in the presence of the prosecutor with his solicitor and witnesses, but in the absence of the defendant, who failed to appear in answer to the summons—which, we understand, the police had failed to serve upon the accused, who went to sea soon after the alleged offence. The "blue paper" was left at his parents' house, the man himself being quite ignorant of the fact that legal proceedings had been instituted against him.

Had the charge been one involving no suggestion of criminality, the course adopted by the magistrates might have been less open to criticism. By mutual consent, tacit or expressed, such cases are frequently disposed of in the absence of the defendant. But in so grave a matter such a proceeding was inexcusable, and constituted a violation of the whole spirit of the law. If we suppose that the Justices were aware of the reasons for the man's non-appearance, their action assumes an even graver aspect. They should, of course, have issued a warrant instead of the summons, and then have adjourned the proceedings pending its execution. Instead of this, the prosecutor was permitted to call his witnesses and unfold his one-sided tale, with the aid of a skilled advocate, after which the accused man, who had been neither seen nor heard, was sentenced to three weeks' hard labour, a warrant for his arrest being ordered.

We are informed that the warrant has since been executed. Perhaps when the sentence has expired the worthy Shallows of Littlehampton will call the man up to hear his defence!

THE TRADE UNION LABEL.

OFFICIALS' "INCURABLE ITCH OF WRITING."

A resolution was put to the Trade Union Congress last week calling upon all delegates to give preference to articles bearing the trade union label. An amusing discussion resulted. "How," asked a miners' delegate, "are you going to label coal?" "Or cabbages and other garden produce?" inquired another. These two simple questions exposed the fatuity of the demand. The utter impossibility of affixing the trade union label to all the prime necessities of life, and the extent to which the working classes rely upon the products of foreign countries for their sustenance, comforts, and small luxuries became instantly manifest. The average working man begins his day by pushing his legs into a pair of trousers which, for all he knows, may have been made by sweated labour, for they bear no trade union label on the seat. He breakfasts off foreign produce—Russian or Argentine corn has gone to the making of his bread, his bacon owes its origin to Denmark or the U.S.A., his tea comes from India or Ceylon, his sugar from Germany, his margarine from the Continent; he fills his French briar pipe with American tobacco and lights it with a Swedish match. At dinner the tale is repeated. His beef comes from the Argentine, his mutton from New Zealand, his pork possibly from China, his cheese from Canada or the U.S.A. The same with his butter, bacon, sugar and a hundred and one other comestibles. What is there left for him to purchase, with the certainty that he is patronising trade union labour? Only the larger luxuries, such as ships, locomotives, motor-cars, houses, carriages, and the like, whereof the construction is in the hands of the unions. Consequently we regard the aforementioned resolution as merely a further example of the futility of the Congress, as at present constituted. Yet a genuine Congress of genuine workers, bent on Business, and guided by level-headed men, might work wonders for the cause of labour. At present, it is all talk, and nothing more, and mostly very silly talk at that.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?
See page 424..

"Two Rogues and a Fire"—a Thrilling Short Serial begins in this week's "Mary Bull."

BRIGHTON BATHING ON THE BEACH.

BY A SHO KED VISITOR.

[*Not having had an opportunity (which is just our luck!) of verifying our contributor's statements, we do not in any way identify ourselves with his complaint. Has he any snapshots he can send us?*]

Not so very long ago as time is counted, Brighton was justly regarded as being rather a particular kind of place with respect to its public bathing. The following notice may still be seen upon the sea-front; but it will be interesting to note how much regard is now paid to it by either the public or the authorities:—

> Persons may undress on the beach and bathe in the sea in the space between this board and the board seventy-five yards west, before 9 o'clock in the forenoon and after 6.30 in the evening, provided they wear drawers or such other suitable covering that will prevent the indecent exposure of the person.
>
> Penalty for breach of the above regulation, forty shillings.
>
> HUGO TALBOT, *Town Clerk*

As a matter of fact, public bathing now takes place at Brighton all day long from practically the whole distance between the Palace Pier and Black Rock.

One may naturally ask: "Well, and why not?" The answer is that to all intents and purposes the majority of the unrobing takes place within the public eye, since the three dozen or so machines on the beach can never hope to cope with a fraction of the many hundreds of daily bathers. We are all perfectly willing to admit that some people will see harm where none exists; but so far as Brighton has been concerned this season, a self-respecting woman could scarcely sit upon certain sections of the beach.

THE PARSON IN "THE GARDEN."

Ask the machine proprietors, and you will find them hold forth in no unmeasured terms as to the lack of decency of the present lax regulations. And this not because of any loss of business to them, as they have more than they can accommodate. One of them will tell you of a certain elderly, corpulent clergyman who could recently be seen daily on the beach, covered only by a towel, lying for hours in the blazing sun. If a lady or girl approached, she was calmly requested to move away.

So much for mid-day bathing; but there is a somewhat more serious aspect to the case.

During the heat of the holiday season a very large number of people of both sexes bathe before breakfast. Some use machines; but many prefer to use the bathing huts, of which there are several of fair size. These, however, are often quite insufficient to cope with the demand, and many bathers undress, in the open, on the beach. Seeing that it is so early in the morning, there is no harm in that; but there should be no necessity for the two sexes to unrobe side by side and even to make one heap of their clothing. This is certainly both unseemly and improper.

"VERY HOT."

This year the weather has been very hot at Brighton, and bathing has been rather more popular than it has ever been since "mixed bathing" became the fashion. Like most good things, mixed bathing can be abused; and, after all, Brighton beach was not created wholly and solely for the benefit of bathers. It should at least be possible for ladies to be able to glance up from their books without having to witness the spectacle of innumerable Apollos in the act of either taking off their trousers or putting on their shirts!

All that is necessary is that the Brighton authorities should tighten the bathing regulations a trifle in the direction of public decency. In no case is it a fitting thing for women to unrobe in the open; and the police should exercise a little more vigilance to protect those who are not bathers from offence.

Above all, Mr. Hugo Talbot should have a fresh notice printed, which is not a dead letter; and having had one contrived to meet the case, he should recommend the Corporation of Brighton to see that the police are given power to enforce the regulations he has framed.

WHAT IS A CHANDLER?

BRENTFORD MAGISTRATES' SANE DECISION.

The Ealing Borough Council recently instituted somewhat vexatious proceedings against a local tradesman. The defendant was a general dealer or "chandler," for, while grocery and provisions formed the staple of his stock, household utensils, ginger-pop and pills were among the articles purveyed. A year ago, the "general chandlers" of Drayton-Green Ward, Ealing, were exempted by the Borough Council from the compulsory closing provisions of the Shops Act—a sensible exercise of that authority which the municipalities, for the most part, have been far too slow to exert. The defendant in the proceedings to which we refer was for twelve months permitted to enjoy the privilege of exemption. Last month, however, he was suddenly prosecuted, at the instance of the Council, for an infringement of the Act, it being argued that he was not a "general chandler," but a grocer and provision merchant—a plea which may throw some light upon the influence at the back of the prosecution.

The defendant—a small general dealer with a solitary errand boy for staff—insisted that he was a "chandler" in the correct acceptation of the somewhat archaic term. The contending lawyers found the word a little difficult of precise definition, but several erudite attempts were propounded. Dictionaries were consulted, but they steadily declined to permit chandlers to sell anything but candles—as in the days of yore. Historians were called into counsel, Stubbs' observation that "chandlers sell almost all things" being peculiarly helpful. A judicial decision, dating from 1664, permitting chandlers to sell "scurvy grass," was seized upon with gusto. When the lawyers had had their innings commonsense regained control of the proceedings, and the prosecution was scouted out of Court, the Bench holding that the defendant was a chandler—despite the whims of legalists or the lapses of lexicographers. The sane decision of the Bench will be welcomed by local residents, and is in pleasing contrast to the absurdities repeatedly perpetrated by other magisterial Benches which we might name.

"TOMMY" ROT.

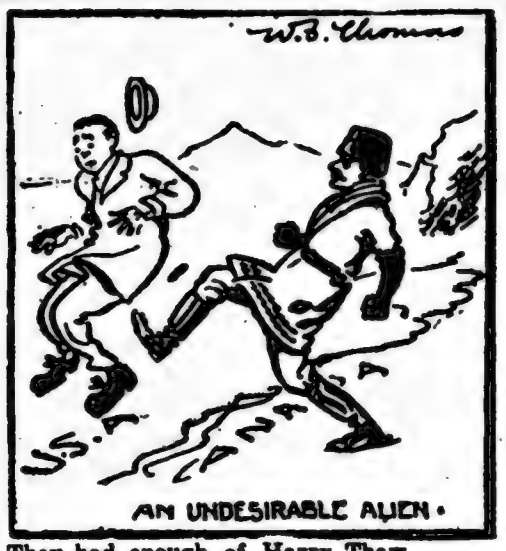
"FOR THE CREDIT OF THE REGIMENT."

"Death from heat stroke" was the verdict returned at an inquest held a short time ago at Bordon Camp on Patrick Crick, a private of the 2nd Battalion of the Welsh Regiment, who died after a march of 13 miles. Crick during the journey felt ill, and when told he could fall out remarked, "I'll stick it." He did—and paid for his pluck with his life. The proceedings at the inquest were short and sweet. The Coroner paid a tribute to the poor man's adhesive abilities; a military funeral was accorded—and the same killing system is continued! As usual, all the facts were not disclosed at the inquest. For instance, it was not stated that the regiment is passing through a process known as "bucking up." Certain of the officers who have been in the Colonies nigger-driving have returned, and continue their martinetism forgetful of the fact that when a white man is harried to death there is "more dam'd row, dontcherknow, than if a hundred natives were killed, by Jove!" The day before Crick died the regiment was out on running parade. The temperature was 85 in the shade! On the fatal route march, each man had to carry about 60 lbs. of kit strapped on his back. Fancy doing 13 miles under these conditions! Many of the men fell out on the way. Poor Crick wouldn't—"for the credit of the regiment." We hope Colonel Seely will hold an official inquiry into this case and stop such heartless tomfoolery. We shall probably be told that it is necessary, on the principle that in time of peace we should prepare for war. We agree with the maxim, but no athlete preparing for a long race would run, or walk, himself out. Again, in war time it is often necessary that combatants should exist on half, and sometimes even quarter, rations—but surely even the greatest martinet would not have the hardihood to suggest that troops should accustom themselves to being underfed in order to stand such a strain!

Result of Our Football Contest. See page 401.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."



They had enough of Harry Thaw
And his evasions of the law;
His twists and turns they found too hot,
So quickly cut the Gordian knot.

His Lordship gaily flies his kite,
He thinks it is quite "out of sight";
But Party bigots he'll not balk—
They will not be put off with talk.

Sir Oliver still asks for "more,"
Though of knowledge he has quite a store.
He fain would peer behind the Veil
And then reveal to us the tale.

The Lord and "Lloyd" a contest wage;
They both are in a fearful rage.
Investments are most harshly named
And noble ancestors defamed.

The Mandarin bows his plumed head
And humbly takes back all he said;
The bold Jap slowly sheathes his sword,
Content his neighbour to have awed.

Upon the playing fields of Eton
The valiant French were badly beaten;
Yet nowadays 'tis not deemed right
To use our troops for a picture fight.

AN ECHO OF AN EXPLOSION.

WHY DOES THE HOME OFFICE BURKE INQUIRY?

Early in 1911, Henry Harris, a young engineer in the employ of the Vauxhall and West Hydraulic Engineering Company, of Luton, met with a fatal accident. The case, which presented several curious features, aroused considerable consternation in the town, and to this day there is a feeling that much has been left unexplained. Apart from the coroner's inquest, there was no official inquiry.

Harris, at the time of the accident, was engaged in the pressure testing of a tyre-setting machine. He was closely examining parts of the machine with the aid of a lighted candle, when a "union" burst, releasing a copious spray of oil. The oil was ignited by the naked flame, and in a moment Harris's clothes were ablaze.

At the inquest, a detective-inspector produced a bottle of oil which he declared to be identical with that which had caused Harris's injuries. The inspector applied a lighted match to the mouth of the bottle. The oil was manifestly non-flammable. Mr. Ash, works manager and director of the engineering company, confirmed the material points of the inspector's story. He declared that in testing operations the oil was used under a pressure of thirty hundredweights, but that it was non-flammable and non-explosive.

An inspector of factories was present at the inquest, and, in view of his attendance, the coroner directed the jury that they should add no technical rider to their verdict—a most unwarrantable interference with the discretion of the jurymen. After some deliberation, a verdict of "accidental death" was returned, with the specific addition that "no one was to blame."

We now proceed to a feature of the case which calls for the serious consideration of the Home Office authorities. Three men who were working with Harris at the time of the fatality have since come forward and given certain information to the Luton Borough Police. We quote the more striking passages in their depositions:—

William Canderton deposes:

> It is to my knowledge that naphtha spirit was used at the firm at that particular time, for the testing of tyre-setters. I can say that the spirit has been in use at the West Hydraulic Works for the whole of the period I have been employed there, which is about five years. For this particular work I have never seen any other spirit used.

Frederick Tuffnell says:

> The oil, in my opinion, with which Harris was working, was of a very explosive nature. The explosion was in my direct line of sight, being only six yards away. There was a very strong smell of naphtha.

A third deponent confirms these allegations, concerning the truth or falsity of which we have no means of forming an opinion. The men's statements were made deliberately, in the presence of responsible police officers, and thus merit searching investigation. They have been submitted to the Home Office authorities, with no apparent result. It is a pity that the men whose statements we have quoted did not, for obvious reasons, come forward at an earlier stage, but even now their startling evidence affords ample ground for searching inquiry, to be followed, if need be, by instant and effective action.

For the Winter Evenings—Try "Bullets." Over 5,000 Prize Winners weekly.

A SHABBY SHIFT.

OBJECTIONABLE POLICE METHODS AT MANCHESTER.

With the main counts in our indictment of Manchester police methods our readers are already familiar, and we retract no word of our strictures. Under the sinister ægis of Chief Constable Peacock—who appears to hold the Watch Committee in the hollow of his hand—the administration of police affairs in the city is fast becoming a by-word among the municipalities. A recent episode calls for renewed protest. Two youths appeared before the magistrates upon a charge of stealing shirts from the warehouse of their employer. They had been engaged as packers and had thus been in a position both of responsibility and of peculiar temptation. The principal witness for the prosecution was a police officer, whose evidence showed that for a whole month he had played private detective in a most thorough-going fashion. Acting upon the instructions of his superior officer, he had engaged himself to the shirt firm as an assistant-packer. Suspecting two of his fellow employees of a disposition to pilfer, he wormed himself into their confidence. They at length told him that they were going to take some shirts. He said—the words are his own—"All right, take them." Thus encouraged, not to say incited, the foolish lads completed the theft, having first arranged to meet the policeman in mufti on the following evening. The appointed meeting took place, and the thieves, who brought the shirts with them, were, of course, arrested on the spot. We have no doubt that the "smart" officer has been duly commended for his heroic work. Unfortunately, it is by no means certain that the constable's story is a complete account of the shabby business. The officer's sworn testimony fails to explain a material point. Why did the lads consent to meet him after the completion of their crime? What was the ostensible purpose of the meeting? The thieves did not anticipate arrest, and had they entertained the least suspicion they would have avoided the rendezvous. Why did they bring the stolen property with them? How were they trapped? The officer's evidence does not help us. We are driven back upon the prisoners' own tale. We give it with all reserve, recognising that men in such a position are not to be looked to for Washingtonian veracity. They suggested he had said: "Take them," and that he would go shares. The police officer denied that he had entered into any such corrupt bargain. Had the men's story been true, it would obviously have afforded a simple explanation of an otherwise inexplicable circumstance. As it is, a constable of the Manchester City Force stands convicted upon his own confession that he expressly connived at the perpetration of theft in order to procure the arrest of two suspects. He adds that he adopted this unwholesome and un-English course in pursuance of his official instructions. The citizens of Manchester pay their police for cleaner work.

THE OLD GAME.

£10 WORTH OF JEWELLERY FOR HALF-A-CROWN.

The London Jewellery Syndicate are very busy just now circularising people residing in the provinces. Their printed notepaper gives their address as Barbican Court, E.C., and to make the circular letter more imposing a photo of palatial premises appears on it. Accompanying the letter is a watch chain, and this is what the firm say:—

> We have just made a very large purchase of a Birmingham Manufacturer's Stock of Jewellery, and we are taking the liberty of sending you a very Handsome Watch Chain on approval, which is the latest design and high-grade finish; an article of same appearance in gold and platinum could not be purchased at your local jeweller under £10.

The price asked for the chain is 2s. 6d., and the recipient is requested either to return it within ten days or remit the money. We strongly advise any of our readers who have received the mendacious circular to do neither.

Operating from the same address is what is called the Anglo-American Manufacturing Company. In a similar circular, bearing a photo of the same premises, all sorts of promises of something for nothing are made. These people occupy a small room up a back alley!

"A 'RUE'-LETTE RUSE."

COMPANY'S CASH CAPITAL SMALLER BY DEGREES AND BEAUTIFULLY LESS.

Mr. J. R. Bentote, of 4, Hilton Avenue, North Finchley—whose name we published as that of one of the signatories to the Articles of Association of, and holder of one share in, the R.S.I. Corporation, which offers to make the fortune of anybody entrusting it with a few pounds with which to gamble at roulette—has called upon us in reference to the article in a recent issue, and informs us that he has no knowledge whatever of the Company, or of the two individuals, Donald Cameron and Stuart Bruce, who conduct it. He explains that, meeting in a restaurant a business friend in whom he had confidence, he unthinkingly consented to append his signature to a document, being told that he would get either a share or a sovereign. We are not surprised, however, to hear that he has got neither.

Mr. Bentote admits that he was careless in signing, and thereby taking part in bringing into existence a concern of the character we have exposed, but he assures us that he had no idea of the nature of the business it was to conduct, nor did he even know its name. Being aware of the loose way in which small joint stock enterprises are frequently launched, we have no hesitation in accepting his statement. As, with the exception of Mr. Bentote, the remaining signatories, other than Cameron and Bruce, are such small fry as "clerks" and "typists," it would appear that the actual cash capital was the £2 subscribed by the wire-pullers!

"A MUDDLED MEMORIAL."

THE WAY THE MONEY WENT, TILL "POP" WENT THE SCHEME.

One of the subscribers to the King Edward Memorial Fund gives us some further interesting particulars in regard to this abortive scheme for the acquisition of the Crystal Palace for the public. He tells us that when, after rejecting more than one overture to obtain a waiving of the condition that in the event of the project falling through his money would be returned "less a small proportion for expenses"—he at last received a refund from Messrs. Lewis and Mounsey, the accountants, he found that the "small proportion for expenses" amounted to 13s. out of every guinea subscribed. It is certainly right that the public should know that the great flourish of trumpets which signalised the handing over by Lord Tenterden of the balance of the fund to *The Times'* scheme, drowned protests that nearly two-thirds of the whole of the money forwarded to him and his co-organisers of the Memorial scheme had been dissipated in expenses. By-the-way, we are also informed that all subscribers who applied for the return of their money have not yet obtained it, and we are afraid that the prospect of their getting it is now a very remote one.

MOORE, THE SADDER.

DIRTY DRAPERY DODGER GETS HIS DESERTS.

In our last issue we exposed what was known as the London Drapery Company, of 235, High Holborn, run by a man calling himself C. Moore. It will be remembered that his practice was to insert advertisements in weekly newspapers offering to despatch a "beautiful bale of drapery," value 20s., upon the payment of the first instalment, no goods being sent—indeed he had none. When things became warm he sought safety in flight. Moore, whose real name is Panzer, has now been sentenced at Bow Street to three months' hard labour. The landlord of the premises at 235, High Holborn, is cross because we made what he describes as a "very serious error," by stating that the "bargain bale" business was run from a room on the top floor, whereas it was on the second floor. We are glad to rectify this "serious error." We think, however, the landlord would be better employed in making full enquiries before sub-letting his premises than in worrying himself over such comparatively trivial details.

Final Coupon this week. See our Second Great Football Contest, page 423.

TRELOAR'S

SEPTEMBER CARPET OFFERS.

IN spite of the all-round rise in carpet prices, TRELOAR & SONS are in the fortunate position of being able to offer the following important carpets at the old prices, affording a saving of from 10 to 20 per cent.

TURKEY CARPETS.

In Fancy Designs, suitable for Dining Room, Study, Smoking Room or Office.

Size.		Price.
7ft. 11in. by 7ft. 1in.	.....	£3 18 0
10ft. 3in. „ 8ft. 3in.	.....	£4 15 0
11ft. 3in. „ 9ft. 6in.	.....	£5 7 0
12ft. 8in. „ 9ft. 11in.	.....	£6 6 0

and many other convenient sizes.

SEAMLESS AXMINSTER CARPETS.

(Popular Quality.) Red Turkey Designs, suitable for Dining Rooms, Library, etc.

Size.		Price.
10ft. 6in. by 9ft. 0in.	.....	£3 0 0
12ft. 0in. „ 9ft. 0in.	.....	£3 10 0
12ft. 0in. „ 10ft. 6in.	.....	£4 10 0

FINE CLOSE PILE RUGS.

Perfect replicas of very valuable Persian Rugs for Halls, Corridors and Landings, as well as for rooms where a really effective and artistic "finish" is required to the floor-furnishing.

Size.		Price.
5ft. 0in. by 2ft. 3in.	.....	12 6
5ft. 6in. „ 3ft. 0in.	.....	17 6
6ft. 4in. „ 4ft. 4in.	.....	£1 12 6
9ft. 0in. „ 3ft. 0in.	.....	£1 10 0
10ft. 6in. „ 3ft. 0in.	.....	£1 15 6
12ft. 0in. „ 3ft. 0in.	.....	£2 2 0

SEAMLESS PAISLEY CARPETS

in charming Floral designs. There are only eighty of these special carpets, and the prices cannot be repeated.

Size.		Price.
10ft. 6in. by 9ft. 0in.	.....	£1 17 0
12ft. 0in. „ 9ft. 0in.	.....	£2 2 0
12ft. 0in. „ 10ft. 6in.	.....	£2 10 0
13ft. 6in. „ 12ft. 0in.	.....	£3 12 0

By a special convenient plan, too, country customers are enabled to order any carpet on the understanding that if not in every way satisfactory it may be returned to TRELOAR S for exchange or the price paid refunded.

A full catalogue and price list of all the above and many other special carpeting offers will be sent by return post to all who call, write, telephone, or send the convenient form below.

TRELOAR & SONS,
68, 69 & 70, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.
Telephones: 6651 *Central.*
9821 „

Please send me your Latest Carpet Catalogue containing the Special September Floor-covering offers.

Name .....

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.....

"J.B.," 20/9/13.

CUT THIS OUT.

Famous Specialist's Recipe for Catarrhal Deafness and Head Noises.

If you know someone who is troubled with head noises, or Catarrhal deafness, cut out this formula and hand to them, and you will have been the means of saving some poor sufferers perhaps from total deafness. Recent experiments have proved conclusively that Catarrhal deafness, head noises, etc., were the direct cause of a constitutional disease, and that salves, sprays, inhalers, etc., merely temporise with the complaint, and seldom, if ever, effect a permanent cure. This being so, much time and money has been spent of late by a noted specialist in perfecting a pure, gentle, yet effective tonic that would quickly dispel all traces of the catarrhal poison from the system. The effective prescription which was eventually formulated, and which has aroused the belief that deafness will soon be extinct, is given below in understandable form, so that any one can treat themselves in their own home at little expense.

Secure from your chemist 1oz. Parmint (Double Strength), about 2s. 6d. worth. Take this home and add to it ½-pint of hot water and 4 ozs. of moist or granulated sugar; stir until dissolved. Take one tablespoonful four times a day.

The first dose promptly ends the most distressing head noises, headache, dullness, cloudy thinking, etc., while the hearing rapidly returns as the system is invigorated by the tonic action of the treatment. Loss of smell and mucus dropping in the back of the throat are other symptoms that show the presence of catarrhal poison, and which are quickly overcome by this efficacious treatment. Nearly ninety per cent. of all ear troubles are directly caused by catarrh, therefore, there are but few people whose hearing cannot be restored by this simple home treatment. Every person who is troubled with head noises, catarrhal deafness, or catarrh in any form should give this prescription a trial. There is nothing better.

Important.—In ordering Parmint from your chemist always specify that you want Double Strength. Should he not have it in stock, write to the International Laboratories, Carlton House, Great Queen Street, London, W.C., who make a speciality of it.

Sword Cutlers to H.M. the King.

WILKINSON RAZORS

Made from the world-famous Wilkinson Sword Steel—hardened and tempered by a special process, American and other razors soon lose their edge, require a lot of stropping, or have to be thrown away. It's all in the steel—the first consideration is a razor, and the Wilkinson is the only razor made from "Sword Steel." See that every blade bears the word "Wilkinson," none genuine without. Made in three patterns:—

Wilkinson Razors, as used by barbers (they should know) and others. 6/6, 5/6 and 3/6 each.

Wilkinson's "Pall Mall" Strong Beard Safety. New Patent. 10/6. Many Safety razors now being sold are useless for strong beards.

Wilkinson Safety Shaver (Wafer Blade), in case complete, with twelve double-edged blades, 21/- Simple, efficient.

Wilkinson Razors have keen edges that last longer than any other blades on the market. Sold at all Stores, Cutlers, Hairdressers, &c. Insist on having a Wilkinson and your razor troubles will be over. Send for list free.

The WILKINSON SWORD Co., 53, Pall Mall, London, S.W. Factory: Acton, W.

Trade *Mark*

A HEARTLESS OFFICIAL.

AGED PENSIONER'S UNHAPPY PLIGHT.

The making of false statements for the purpose of obtaining an old age pension is a species of fraud properly punishable by imprisonment. Unhappily, however, there are indications that the authorities are sufficiently cautious in the institution of criminal proceedings.

Joseph Birdsall, of Castleford, now aged 76, was clearly entitled to a full pension when first he made application. His claim was instantly allowed and the money regularly paid for upwards of two years. In 1912, however, he accepted casual employment at a daily wage of one shilling. He embarked, too, upon a financial transaction consisting, he declares, of borrowing forty-seven pounds at five per cent. to lend to a friend at one per cent. less. These facts came to the knowledge of the local Pensions Officer, who at once called upon Birdsall to make enquiries. In the usual formula the man was asked if his income was above eight shillings a week. Thinking of his daily shilling, he promptly replied in the negative and signed a declaration accordingly—quite honestly, but oblivious of the fact that he was enjoying free rations at the expense of his family.

We have said that Birdsall acted honestly. The sequel justifies our estimate of the man's character. From another source the Pensions Officer was speedily apprised of the man's real position, and in due course he advised the Pensions Committee that Birdsall was drawing a more liberal allowance than that to which he was strictly entitled. The officers scrupulously refrained from any suggestion of fraud. The Committee held that the pensioner, who was well known to many of them as a man of high respectability, had erred through want of knowledge, but had been guiltless of bad faith. The pension was reduced to two shillings per week. Not content with this measure of redress, the Pensions Officer, without consulting his Committee, and, as it will appear, in direct opposition to their wishes, reported the case to London for criminal prosecution. The poor old man, who never in the long span of his life had darkened the door of a police court, was thrust into the dock to answer a charge of fraud, and to face the cruel cross-examination of a solicitor brought from London—at the taxpayers' expense—to prosecute "for the Crown." But for two facts Birdsall might have expiated his ignorance—his worst crime—in gaol. A solicitor engaged for the defence was easily able to refute the suggestion of criminal intent. His task was shared by the Clerk to the local Pensions Committee, who appeared in Court *at the Committee's request*, to testify to Birdsall's high character, and to resist the suggestion of criminal culpability *advanced by their own Pensions Officer.*

The magistrates dismissed the charge, but it was some time before Birdsall recovered from the physical and mental shock of the proceedings. Moreover, the Pensions Officer seems determined to bring the poor fellow's grey hairs with worry to the grave, for he has since been pestering the distracted man for repayment of moneys which, he alleges, have been advanced in excess of the proper pension limit, a vexatious proceeding of very questionable legality. The Pensions Officer of the Castleford district must be a most unpleasant sort of person. It is high time that a severe check was applied to officials of his kidney, under whose harsh and undiscerning administration a well-intentioned and useful scheme has become an excuse for oppression and tyranny.

AN ORPHAN WANTED.

Mrs. L. A. F. (Chester) wants to adopt an orphan baby girl. She and her husband would like to know, if possible, that the child was legitimately born, and (being strong believers in heredity) would be glad to have, at any rate, a faint idea of her parentage, so as "to know that they would not be giving their love and care to criminal material—no matter how destitute or common the stock, so long as there is decent blood in her veins." Our correspondent being in delicate health just now, the matter will have to remain in abeyance until she is stronger. Without undertaking any responsibility whatever in the matter, we shall be pleased to forward any letters sent care of this office.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CCLXV.

[In this column every week we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

A FAMILY IN TEARS.

The most poignant of all poverty is that which is hidden. Here is a case that was brought to our notice unknown to the sufferers. Living in two rooms in the South West of London is a little family of six. The breadwinner, a man of 34, is stricken down with the white scourge. When we called he was just being prepared to enter the Brompton Hospital. Both he and his wife are well educated. Less than a year ago he was in good health, earning a fair wage, and had a happy home. Since then, however, his furniture has been sold bit by bit. The four children—all boys, and aged 13, 11, 10 and 5 years, respectively—are refined little fellows, but their health must be seriously undermined by lack of proper food, for their main support for weeks past has been bread and margarine. When we called upon the family they were by no means pleased that a good Samaritan should have made their needs known to us, but a few kind words soon put them at their ease. An inspection of the cupboard disclosed that all it contained was a little stale bread, so our investigator did a little shopping, and in a few minutes had the satisfaction of seeing the sick man quench his thirst with new milk, and the little family seated to a substantial meal. Then their gratitude expressed itself in a manner at once sincere, but silent. Tears came into the mother's eyes, then into the father's. The man is now in hospital, but we are afraid there is little hope of his recovery. The eldest boy will soon be leaving school, and the brave mother says that if she can manage to pay what few debts she owes and get some clothes for herself and children, she, with the lad's help, will be able to keep things going. We think that, on behalf of our readers, we can promise her this.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CCLXI.—"Exeter," 10s.

CCLXII.—"Arcanum," 2s. 6d.

CCLXIII.—"Ivy Mary," 5s.; "Alas," 2s. 6d.; "Elstow," 1s.; C. M., 1s.; "Brush," 1s.; H. M., 1s.; W. M. R., 2s. 6d.; A. S., 2s.; "One of No Importance" 6d.; H. D., 1s. 6d.; Mrs. W., 1s.; N. D., 2s. 6d.; M. F. E. H., £1; "Don," 6d.; "Two Sympathisers," 2s.; H. B., 1s.; L. & H., 6d.; "Kleinigkeit," 2s.; "Chauffeur," 2s.; Miss M. C., 5s.; B. C., 2s.; W. T. D., 6d.; "A Soldier" (Richmond), 6d.; A. N., 3s. 6d.; "Scratch Pots," 2s. 6d.; R. C., 1s.; parcels from "A Country Cousin," A. C. and "An Irish Girl."

CCLXIV.—"Ivy Mary," 5s.; B. F., 1s.; "Him that Hath Not Much," 2s. 6d.; F. B., £1; W. D., £1 5s.; A. E. J., 2s.; H. O. B., 6d.; A. W. M., 1s.; A. R., 6d.; L. D., 5s.; G. W. W., 15s.; "Alfred," 6d.; H. S., 5s.; E. M. H., 3d.; Miss A. H., 1s.; J. W. S., 10s.; H. P., 6d.; "Sympathiser" (Harrogate), £2; C. S. S., 2s. 6d; J. F. S., 2s. 6d.; F. F., 2s. 6d.; Winner of 2nd prize, "Bullets" Competition No. 47, £1; Parcel from anonymous donor.

Two hampers and a box have been received from Miss M.C., and distributed between CCLIX., CCLX., CCLXIII., CCLXIV., and CCLXV.

We have this week apportioned £10 from the JOHN BULL Derby Sweepstake Charity Fund as follows:—CCXLVII., £3; CCLXIV., £5; and £2 to the poor woman referred to in our issue of September 6th under the heading "Too Late or Too Soon?"

"A Soldier" (Richmond) sends us 6d. for the ex-soldier recently referred to under the heading of "A Crying Shame."

COLLECTING BOXES.

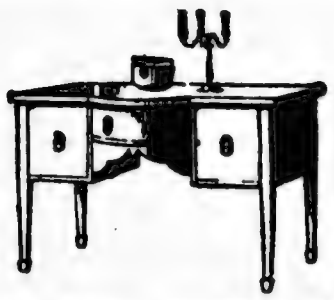
LONDON.—Mr. D. Hawkins, "Duke of York," High Street, Shadwell, 1s. 1d.; Mr. B. Levett, "The Cobden," Berger Road, Homerton, £1 1s. 10½d.; Mr. A. Bellatti, "The Sadlers," Swallow Street, 2s. 1½d.; Mr. E. Walters, "Carpenters' Arms," Catherine Street, Buckingham Gate, 1s. 1d.

Total £1 6s. 1½d., which we have allocated to CCLIII.

Don't forget your Pen Coupon this week. On page iii. of Cover.

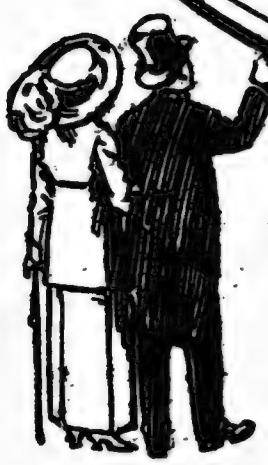
The handsome Queen Anne style Dining Room Suite illustrated, consisting of Mahogany Sideboard, 4 Chairs and 2 Carvers, Dining Table and Easy Chair, complete.

£19 19s. 0d.



Finely executed reproduction of a Sheraton Sideboard, in rich Spanish Mahogany. A typical example of "Midland" value.

£5 5s. 0d.



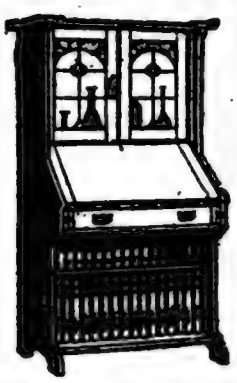
If you have set your heart on having a really beautiful Home

Come to us. Come to the Midland and see the marvellous exhibition of £100,000 worth of superb furniture now on view. Spend a delightful hour in our Furniture Salons, comparing the beautiful designs, and admiring the exquisite finish of every piece. There is a whole series of fully furnished rooms and completely equipped flats, where you can see exactly how your furniture will look when you arrange it in your own home. And

Money buys more at the "Midland."

We have won our unique reputation as London's Leading Furnishers by the *value* we give and the consideration we show to our customers. Our Ideal Terms of payment enable you to pick just the furniture you fancy, and to pay for it at your convenience, without touching your capital.

We charge nothing for credit—no deposit, no interest—nothing but the prices plainly marked on the goods. Should the purchaser die, **the furniture becomes the absolute property of the wife,** without any further payment. All furniture purchased on our Ideal Terms **is insured against fire.**



Quaint Oak Bureau, with fall front. The top part is fitted with leaded light glass doors.

£2 17s. 6d.

TERMS.

Worth				Per Month			Worth				Per Month		
£10	...	...	...	£0	6	0	£50	...	...	...	£1	8	0
£20	...	..	...	0	11	0	£100	...	...	...	2	5	0
£30	...	...	...	0	17	0	£200	...	...	...	4	10	0
£40	...	...	...	1	5	0	£500	...	...	...	11	5	0

Larger amounts pro rata. 10% Discount for Cash.

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Seven doors from Holborn and Holborn Tube Station.
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Customers' fares to town paid on all orders of £20 and over. Country orders packed and delivered free.

Special Department for Second-hand Furniture.

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If you cannot call in person, send a postcard with your full name and address to the Midland Furnishing Company, Ltd., 15-23, Southampton Row, London, W.C. We will send you by return our Album of Fine Furniture, richly illustrated with over 1,000 photographs and coloured plates.

THE INTRODUCTION.

FRIEND "Allow me to introduce the President of my Club and the Town Clerk of the Borough."
OLD BOFFIN (*three sheets in the wind*): "Ver' pleashed t' meet you both (hic)."

WATSON AND THE WAITERS.

EMIGRATING IN HASTE AND REPENTING AT LEISURE.

In April last we warned our readers in the trade against a person calling himself Watson, who was over here engaging waiters for the C.P.R. cars. In spite of our strictures, this wily creature managed to get into his net many a decent man who is now—if not stranded—at any rate, poorer and wiser. One of them tells us:—

> Some few months ago I noticed an advertisement in a daily paper in which it said that waiters were required for the C.P.R. Although employed in the Grand Central Hotel, Belfast, I was anxious naturally to better my position in life, and I wrote to a Mr. Watson, Craven Hotel, London,—one of the C.P.R. officials. The opportunities seemed very bright indeed, so I accepted a post and was requested to pay my own fare to Montreal, which I did. I sold up my home, intending to send for my wife and child when in Canada. When we were a day or two out at Montreal we felt our position very keenly. We found that a permanent staff had been on these dining cars, and that we were only extra men being kept aside for a rush. The waiters when on a journey work 17½ hours per day, and have very few tips. We were sent to Windsor Street Station Hotel (six of us), and we all left at the end of three days, as the Head Waiter was a German and had a German staff, and we could get no one at our tables. Eventually we asked him what was his reason for treating us in this manner. He told us that we had better clear off as we were not wanted there. Before leaving England we were supplied with letters of introduction to a Mr. Cooper, General Superintendent, but on arrival we heard of no Mr. Cooper, and our letters of introduction were not asked for. At the end of some weeks we opened them ourselves, and they contained the following: "This is to introduce Waiter—— to the Company's service. He has signed the usual agreement." I may state that this agreement is another hoax and useless. I wish I had taken the warning issued by John Bull.

After all, perhaps bought experience is the best. Watson will no doubt soon be in this country again on the look-out for cheap labour. We hope he will run up against some of those who have already yielded to his blandishments, and have returned here after finding him out.

BLACK AND WHITE.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTION FOR CURING DEPLORABLE EVIL.

An Army officer, lately returned from India, has been much struck by the way in which our English girls run after black men. He attributes the influx of natives mainly to the fact that an English University degree is a *sine qua non* to a successful career in the Indian Government service, or at the Bar out there.

The mixing of the races leads to all kinds of undesirable results—our readers will remember the articles we published describing the horrible sufferings by white women who have been married to and deserted by Indian students—and the almost equal sufferings by those others who return with their native husbands to India, to discover that they are condemned to the seclusion of a harem, where they are regarded as mere chattels.

Our correspondent suggests as a remedy that the degrees of Indian Universities should be accepted as equivalent to those of similar English institutions—the standard of the examinations, if necessary, being raised.

We certainly think our correspondent's suggestion an extremely valuable and practical one.

THE BOARD OF ——?

They slept—unmindful of their task.
"Why did they sleep?" I hear you ask.
Why? because it's part of the game,
The Board of Trade! What's in a name?
They're just as well named "Board of Asses,"
Or they'd have noticed the danger "Gas" is.

Pity to rouse them from their slumber,
To ask from them the total number
Of Innocents slain by *their* grim aid.
Figures they love—this Board of Trade!
Just reach me them down from that pigeon hole;
You'll find them tied up—with their Brains and Soul.

E. E.

Huge Football Prizes Won. See Result of our First Contest on page 401.

Another Swindle!

How really Genuine Offers are sometimes condemned.

Another swindle! And you would be justified in saying it too, if you had never dealt with H. Thomas & Co. and instead merely glanced at the price and did not investigate offer.

The price is just the point. A well-fitting measure suit, Raincoat or Overcoat for 15/6. True nevertheless! When you see it in JOHN BULL it is so. Isn't the offer underneath worth investigating. It costs just a halfpenny postcard to secure from Thomas & Co. free patterns, inch tape, measure form and fashion sheet.

Don't be sceptical. Realise that Thomas & Co. mean to secure satisfied deal-again customers at all costs.

There you have it, so just send that halfpenny postcard or call to 142, Grays Inn Road, London, W.C. See offer beneath.

SUIT, OVERCOAT OR Raincoat 15/6

MADE TO MEASURE.

We realise that to make you a customer we *must* go one better than our competitors, and with this object we will make "John Bull" readers a complete suit or stylish overcoat or guaranteed Raincoat for the absurdly low sum of 15s. 6d.—*to measure too remember.*

Don't be sceptical. Realise that this is an *advertising offer absolutely*, and send us to-day *merely a postcard* for large range of patterns, measure chart and fashion sheet. Mention which patterns and "John Bull," for when you see it there—IT IS SO.

H. THOMAS & CO.,
142 Grays Inn Road, London, W.C.

A DURHAM-DEMONSTRATOR FOR 2/6

GIVES as GOOD a SHAVE as the GUINEA DURHAM-DUPLEX

"The last word in Safety razors."

It is produced to enable you to know what

DURHAM-DUPLEX SHAVING IS.

You can use it Permanently, or, if desired,

EXCHANGE WITHOUT LOSS

for a **DURHAM-DUPLEX OUTFIT** at 21/-
or a **DURHAM-DERBY OUTFIT** at 10/6

SAME BLADE—SAME ACTION—ALL 3 RAZORS.

Blades can be stropped on any strop.
Attachment for use with Demonstrator extra.
Stocked by dealers throughout the British Isles.

For BOOKLET and Name of Nearest Retailer, write to—
DURHAM-DUPLEX RAZOR CO., LTD.,
27B, CHURCH STREET, SHEFFIELD.

SELFRIDGE'S

With the "Permedge" Razor we issue a guarantee for a clean shave for 365 days.

The "Permedge" Razor is made from the finest Sheffield Silver Steel, scientifically hollow-ground. Made in three widths of blade, for heavy, medium and light beards. Should it fail to give you absolute satisfaction for twelve months, send or bring it back, and we will exchange or refund your money in full.

BLACK HANDLE **3/-** IVORY HANDLE **5/-**

SELFRIDGE & Co., Ltd., Oxford Street, London, W.

Your Evening's Pleasure at Home.

Provide for the long evenings; give yourself and the boys a chance to enjoy them by purchasing one of

RILEY'S Billiard Tables.

Made in every size—a size to suit every room and every size in perfect proportion. Prices from £3/7/6. A handy size is 6ft. 4in. at £5/5/0. Riley's Combined Billiard and Dining Tables from £13/10/0. Cash or easy payments. Prices include all accessories, free delivery to nearest railway station in United Kingdom, and 7 days, free trial. *FREE on receipt of postcard full detailed Illustrated Catalogue.*

E. J. RILEY, LTD., Imperial Mills, **ACCRINGTON.**
J82 *London Showrooms:* 147, *Aldersgate St., E.C.*

Price Governs Quality.

You may be able to get your Suit or Overcoat dry-cleaned or dyed at a slightly lower rate than we charge, but the results obtained by the Johnson Patent Processes thoroughly justify the small difference in price, for they represent the highest achievements of which science and skill are capable. Look through your wardrobe for something that needs to be dry-cleaned or dyed and

SEND it to JOHNSONS'

GENTS' SUITS and **OVERCOATS** can be dyed Black, Brown, or Navy Blue, without shrinkage or any alteration in fit or shape. In order to prevent any "dyed" appearance, the vest and sleeve linings are removed, cleaned, and replaced without extra charge, the whole Suit or Overcoat being finally finished and pressed in expert tailor style.

REPAIRS are executed if desired at a much reduced scale of charges by our tailoring department.

Gents' Suits dyed 7/-; cleaned 4/6 Overcoats dyed from 4/6; cleaned from 3/- Burberrys and Raincoats cleaned from 3/6

Ladies' Dresses, Blouses, Gloves, Furs, &c., also treated with marvellous results.

Send for Price List "F," or call at one of our 400 Branches.

JOHNSON BROS. Bootle Dye Works, LIVERPOOL

CAPE TO CAIRO IN A MOTOR,

through parts Unknown to the White Man.

Farewell Greeting by HIS MAJESTY, KING GEORGE V., who expressed his personal interest in this Gigantic Undertaking.

THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF MOTORING

Coventry House, 5, Coventry Street, Piccadilly Circus, W.
(the training centre for the British Motor Industry),

was appointed to take the great responsibility of teaching Motoring to the Leaders of this GOVERNMENT EXPEDITION, including Captain Kelsey (in command).

Apply for full particulars of Practical Motor Tuition for Car Owners, or those wishing to learn for the Trade, or for Private Service. Note above address.

OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To the Right Hon. H. H. Asquith, Premier, Downing Street, London.

MY DEAR MR. ASQUITH,—I perceive that you intend to introduce your scheme for the reformation of the House of Lords in the next session of Parliament. It will interest you, and probably relieve your mind, to know that it is not my intention to interrupt these ceremonial proceedings, and perhaps you will reciprocate your obligation to me in that behalf by informing me when you intend to introduce a scheme for the reformation of the House of Commons, an assembly which, so far as my personal experience of it goes, does not appear to have much altered since the late Mr. Charles Dickens, the eminent bookmaker, described it as the dreariest nuisance that ever bothered a much-bothered world. Assuring you of my best attention at all seasons to self and other nobility and gentry in the neighbourhood, JOHN BULL.

To Lord Halsbury, ex-Lord Chancellor.

DEAR VETERAN,—I observe that you have lately celebrated your eighty-eighth birthday. I rejoice to know that your mental vigour is unabated, and to learn that your physical powers are unimpaired. Though constrained by the exigencies of Party fortune to play a lesser role in national affairs than was once your wont, you remain an ornament of the judiciary and a worthy representative of an important school of political thought. With all my heart, I tender you respectful greetings. May you enjoy the peace which belongs of right to a war-worn veteran in the evening of his days. May you live to see Home Rule, and all the other burning controversies of recent years, settled and forgotten. JOHN BULL.

To T. P. O'Connor, Esq., M.P.

DEAR "TAY-PAY,"—Is there any truth in the persistent rumour that you have refused to "come back to Erin," even if Home Rule is passed, preferring to remain true to bonnie Scotland in Liverpool, and to—er—take your chance? Certain circumstantial gossipers have already fixed you up with ministerial office, declaring that here—or there—will you be found in the palmy days to come. Of course, it may be all an exercise of journalistic imagination (you know what I mean)—but more unlikely things have happened, haven't they? And you've been awfully good lately! Pawky boy! JOHN BULL.

To the Bishop of Southwark.

MY DEAR LORD BISHOP,—Though I am far from admiring the methods of Mr. Kensit in his efforts to keep the doctrines and practices of Rome out of the "Church of England as by law established," and believing as I do in the permission of every liberty to its clergy, consistent with the law by which the national Church is governed, in my opinion his report in the *English Churchman* makes out an irresistible case for your lordship's interference with the amazing practices of the Rev. E. S. Maltby, priest-in-charge of St. Mary's, South Bermondsey. The accusation, corroborated by minute detail, is that a Sunday evening's service at this church includes the rosary of Our Lady, the congregational use of beads, the procession with the Mary image, the avowal of the Immaculate Conception, the procession of the Host, the Benediction and exposition of the Sacrament, intercessions to the Host, worship of the Sacred Heart, and, in addition, various collects, hymns, and responses in Latin including "*O Salutaris Hostia*" and "*Tantum ergo Sacramentum.*"

Now, my Lord Bishop, however appropriate these things may be in the Roman Church, they are out of place in the Church of England; they are clearly doctrines and practices antagonistic alike to its legal constitution and its spiritual life. I will add that it appears to me the clergyman in the case is making a thoroughly dishonest use of his position. If Mr. Maltby wishes to indulge his conscience in such a service, I have no doubt the Roman Church will be glad to receive him into its bosom, and I suggest to your lordship that by way of the ecclesiastical courts you should expedite his footsteps thither. JOHN BULL.

To Herr K. Krall, Elberfeld, Germany.

DEAR HERR,—I have recently read in the daily press an account of how you succeeded in inducing Mr. Edward Bullough, Fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, and Mr. V. J. Woolley, M.D., acting on behalf of the Psychical Research Society, to investigate the claims of your "thinking" horses to figure out addition and multiplication sums—and to report seriously the result of their investigations. The credulity of these gentlemen entirely puts in the shade that of the members of the Pickwick Club. How you must have laughed up your sleeve when you were giving the "thinking" horses the "office" when to shake their heads or nod them, and when to commence or finish pawing the ground! In my boyhood I saw the same tricks performed by the pony in penny shows at country fairs. It is a marvel to me how you could have kept a straight face when you told these "investigators" that you "explained to the horses the rudimentary procedure of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, as you would to a child; and were greatly astonished at the ease and quickness of their understanding—for instance, in grasping the difference between 3 × 2 and 32. With the aid of a simplified spelling table the horses learn to spell, each letter being represented by a number, etc."; but you must have "tried yourself very high" when you seriously informed them that "the work of your *blind* stallion 'Berto' was limited to rudimentary arithmetic, but that *he would answer simple questions written on his flank*"!!!

I note that the "investigators" were, in the end, unable to "make up their minds" as to the exact explanation of the "phenomena." Had they succeeded in doing so, they would have proved themselves the most wonderful dispensers ever known!

JOHN BULL.

To Alderman Major J. E. Fox, Croydon.

DEAR MAJOR,—Permit me to say you are about the only sensible magistrate on the Croydon Bench. About that little boy, Merredew, who "scrumped" five apples from a Thornton Heath garden: with an excellent sense of justice and humour you told the prosecutor you were sorry he "could not take him up and give him a thorough good basting on his hindquarters." You also advised the lad's mother to give him a bit of the birch during the week he was remanded. That is the best punishment for little boys who have the temerity to steal and eat sour apples. It is inadvisable in the public interest to make felons of them. JOHN BULL.

To H. J. Carter, Esq., Chairman of the Justices, Stratford, London, E.

SIR,—I observe that some more naughty little boys were recently charged—at your Court—with the theft of several bottles of sarsaparilla wine. A police-officer described how he had arrested the youngsters and then persuaded or bullied them into a confession of "crime." You sternly deprecated such a practice, remarking that it was "most unsportsmanlike," and you then discharged the wayward youngsters with a prudent caution against further wrongdoing. These slip-shod methods on the part of the police are becoming far too common, and I rejoice that you, at least, have nothing but condemnation for ways so alien to the whole spirit of British jurisprudence.

JOHN BULL.

M. Paul Cambon, French Embassy, London.

Sorry hear rumour you have intimated desire be relieved post French Ambassador, London. Accept assurance you are *persona grata* here and your work for *entente* highly appreciated. BULL.

Canon Newbolt, St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

Why make so much fuss about modern costume ladies suggesting too much leg? Suppose Canons don't think themselves immodest because they go about showing their calves? BULL.

Mrs. Bollinger, Willesden Green, Willesden.

Admire your pluck horsewhipping Dr. Bridger, High Road, Willesden, for his gross conduct to your daughter. Am paying special attention Dr. Bridger next week. BULL.

£1,750 for Football. £650 Must be Won. Final Coupon this week.

THE WRONG CARD—

PLAYING THE KING.

(See article on page 422.)

HEARD IN THE TRAIN.

MAUD ALLAN.

First Lady: Have you read the protests against Maud Allan's appearance on the stage in India?

Second Lady: Yes. How horribly humiliating it must be to her.

First Lady: Do you think so? I doubt it. Surely, a woman who can expose her—her person as she does before a mixed audience must be impervious to feelings of shame. She has received a timely rebuke, in my opinion.

Second Lady: Don't you think that is a little uncharitable?

First Lady: Uncharitable? Certainly *not*. I hope I am free from *that* failing. But I think her performance should be banned not only in India but in England also.

Second Lady: Whatever for?

First Lady: My dear, have you ever seen her dance?

Second Lady: Yes—once. Have you?

First Lady: Scores of times. And I think it was positively scandalous. It made me blush furiously to see one of my own sex posing almost nude before staring men.

Second Lady: Did it affect you the same way the second time you saw her?

First Lady: Er—of *course* it did. What funny questions you ask, my dear.

Second Lady: I only thought the feeling must have worn off a little as you have seen her so often.

First Lady: On the contrary. If anything, I have felt more scandalised every time.

Second Lady: Then why did you go?

First Lady: Why? Oh, well, one must be in the running, you know. She was such a useful topic at dinner at that time. Such a delightfully *risque* subject for conversation, don't you know Besides, the men would talk of nothing else. Don't *you* think her dancing is frightfully naughty?

Second Lady: I thought it exquisite. Her gracefulness and harmonious interpretation of music appealed to me.

First Lady: Oh, well; I know you are possessed of what is called the artistic temperament. I m not. I see things as they are, I'm afraid. No woman with a grain of modesty would expose herself as she does.

Second Lady: But why not? If—as men seem to think, though I can't for the life of me see why—a woman's form is so beautiful, why was it made so, if not to be admired?

First Lady: My *dear* child, how strangely you talk. Would *you* dance in next to nothing as she does?

Second Lady: If I were as beautifully proportioned I might—not, perhaps, before a strange crowd of people, I should be too shy, I think. But to please the man I cared for and who cared for me—if it pleased him.

First Lady: You horrify me!

Second Lady: I am afraid you are a little hypocritical. Do you not wear low-cut corsages? Slit skirts? "One-piece" bathing costumes? I *know* you do, because I've seen you, you know. I hear you created quite a sensation at ——'s affair last week.

First Lady: My dear, England is not India. The morals of the natives must be protected, you know.

Second Lady: Were we talking about India? I had forgotten. But, as you say, the morals of the Indians must be protected. That is what makes me think how humiliating it must seem to Maud Allan to have it pointed out to her that there is anything in her performances in any way dangerous to the morals of anybody. I am *so* sorry for her, because I'm sure such an idea never entered her head until it was suggested by nasty-minded people. Urrh! they make me shiver! Why, this is Victoria!

IT'S WEIGHT THAT TELLS.

Some of the Hackney carriage drivers at Scarborough have our deep sympathy. They have been fined for carrying a greater number of passengers than their vehicles are licensed for—although it was clearly shown that the overplus were children, and that no additional charge was made for them. If the horse could be consulted upon the subject, he would, doubtless say that not number, but weight, should be the criterion!

BILL THE DRIVER;
OR, THE CAREFUL MOTORMAN.

By Richard Morton.

["*Whereas omnibus companies had to pay for injuring people, no action was taken when a person was killed outright. . . . It paid better to kill a person outright than to injure him.*"—*The City Coroner.*]

A spanking shuvver was Bill Sparks,
He easy got a job
With Slayem's Mobus Company,
His wage was forty bob.

And from the first his cleverness
Was by his bosses seen;
They liked the way he done his work,
It was so neat and clean.

Inspectors used to rub their hands
When talking of our Bill,
And say, "If any cove gets on,
Why, he's the one that will."

He never made no blunder when
He had an accident;
He wouldn't break nobody's arm—
Clean over them he went.

If some fool from the kerbstone stepped,
Bill got him pure and plain.
"Why hurt the chap?" he used to say,
"Let's put him out of pain.

"Besides, it doesn't cost a brown
To kindly finish him,
Whereas the company must pay
If he should break a limb."

So Bill's kind heart was always moved
The proper thing to do,
By right of which he never cost
The company a sou.

The other men was careless like,
The damage items grew
So big that all the bosses said
"There's but one thing to do.

"Bill Sparks must teach his stupid mates
The way they ought to steer."
So Bill he got his first big rise;
They made him overseer.

And Bill he used to roast the men
And shout in indignation,
"You blinking idiots! if you maim
A man, that's compensation!

"Why should you hurt a fellow man,
Whose pain must be intense?
It's cruel hard to break his leg—
'Sides, look at the expense!

"Be men, be merciful, be kind,"
So thoughtfully said Bill;
"Remember, for the comp'ny's sake—
It's cheaper far to kill."

The men they saw Bill's heart was kind,
Although he up'd and cursed;
He wouldn't hurt a fly, not Bill—
He'd sooner kill it first!

Have you read the names of the winners in our First Great Football Competition? Why shouldn't yours appear in the next list. See page 401.

"AS SAFE AS THE JOHN BULL BANK."

Can you answer these questions?

Every man engaged in business ought to know the answers to these questions. DO YOU know them all?

YOU will probably find it quite easy to answer most of these questions, but unless you are a rare and brilliant exception you will find several others a good deal more difficult. Some of them, indeed, may be altogether beyond you.

And yet, you will agree, they are all questions that you might have to answer any day in your own business. So—if only out of curiosity—run through the list and see how many you can answer correctly.

20 Specimen Questions.

1. What is the exact purpose of a ledger?
2. What do these signs mean: "E. & O. E.," "F.A.S." & "G.A"?
3. How would you open a branch?
4. What is a consignment note?
5. Do you know how to organise a sale?
6. Do you understand office organisation?
7. What is the difference between sending goods on "consignment" and "on sale or return"?
8. How often by law must a factory be "limewashed"?
9. How and when is a judgment summons issued?
10. What is the cost of registering a limited company?
11. What is the rule about doubtful debts in assessing income tax?
12. Do you know how to take out a patent?
13. Must a receipt be in writing to be valid?
14. What exactly is a "special settlement"?
15. How and when can you claim for loss of an article sent by registered post?
16. What is the difference between a factor and a broker?
17. How would you draw up a selling scheme?
18. How does a secured creditor in bankruptcy abandon his security?
19. Is a seaside shopkeeper liable for rates in the winter when his shop is shut up?
20. How can you recover debts at court without the expense of a solicitor or collecting agency?

How Many Did You Answer?

Well, how have you come through this examination in business knowledge? You must not forget that the knowledge of these facts and of many other facts like them is absolutely necessary to you if you mean to succeed. If you are in business for yourself you know how useful you would find it to be able to answer any business problem that arose; if you are working for others you must realise that your employer will value you more highly if he knows he can go to you for information when he needs it.

And that is why the "Business Encyclopædia and Legal Adviser" is so valuable a work—because it contains information about every point in business life. With it by your side you can answer any question about business that is put to you. For instance, you can answer all the questions that you have just asked yourself. You will find the full purpose of a ledger in the article on Ledgers, Vol. III., page 294. Under "Abbreviations" you will find the meaning of every symbol and sign that is used in business to-day. The third question you will solve by looking up the fine article on the Basic Idea in Business, and so on with all the other questions; and, in fact, with any question about anything relating to business. Thus, in question 19, you will find in a moment that the shopkeeper is liable for rates for the whole time (see Vol. III., page 26).

How This Concerns You.

These questions may not arise in your business, but others do, and if you think it would mean anything to you to know at once what to say or do in every emergency, you should send the coupon below for a handsome illustrated book on Business, telling all about the "Business Encyclopædia" and giving the names of the successful business men who have written it. It also tells how any reader of JOHN BULL may obtain the complete work in seven volumes for a first payment of 1s. 6d. only, and pay the balance in small monthly payments. Sending the coupon commits you to nothing. Is such an opportunity one you should miss?

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All the information you get from the "Business Encyclopædia" is up-to-date and reliable, for its contributors include many of the most successful business men of the day, among them being such famous men as Richard Burbidge (Managing-Director, Harrods Stores), S. F. Edge (the well-known Motor Expert), John Lawrie (Managing-Director William Whiteley, Ltd.), Sir Joseph Lyons (Managing-Director J. Lyons and Co., Ltd.), H. G. Selfridge (Founder of Selfridge's, Ltd.), Wareham Smith (Advertisement Director of the *Daily Mail*), Sir Thomas Dewar (Managing Director of J. Dewar and Sons), J. Murray Allison (Advertisement Manager of *The Times*), H. Simonis (Director of the *Daily News and Leader*), etc., etc.

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.....

IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR.

(Conversation in a Westminster Hairdresser's, overheard by our Special Reporter.)

MR. A. J. BALFOUR.

Good evenin', sir. . . . 'Ope you're well, sir. . . . Quite a stranger, that you are, sir. . . . I wos beginnin' to be afraid I wosn't goin' to 'ave the pleasure of 'andlin' you again, sir. . . . Yes, yore ole seat, *if* you please, sir. . . . Jest the usual? . . . Very good, sir. . . . Times 'as changed since you used to come in reglar for yore evenin' shave, sir, that they 'ave. . . . We don't get many of the ole sort in now, sir. . . . These new four-hundred-a-year men mostly shave themselves, and a pretty 'ash some of 'em make of it, from wot I've seen w'en I've watched 'em arrivin' at St. Stephen's. . . . But wot kin you expect sir? . . . It's breed, that's wot it is. . . . The *h*average Socialist always looks 'arf shaved, like wot the *h*actors do. . . . I don't know w'y it is. . . . P'r'aps their dark political ideas comes out through their chins in the form of bristles.

No, sir, it's the same ole soap. . . . This is your ole special bit. . . . It improves with keepin', sir. . . . I 'aven't shaved ennybody else with it since you wos 'ere larst. . . . Glad to see you've took the flore again, sir. . . . Your speech at 'Addin'ton larst Sa'd'y week came as a narsty jar to the Radicals, I reckon. I see the *Daily Noos* gave a column leader to it. . . . Comin' jist arfter Mr. Birrell's pooh-poohin' of the necessity for a General Election, it wos jist in the nick. . . . Funny thing, sir,

but the Rads seem to take more notice of wot you say then they do of wot Mr. Boner Lore ses. . . . An' yet p'r'aps it ain't funny. . . . They knows 'ow strong your *h*influence is. . . . *Thet's* wot it is. . . . An' they're scared, sir—fair scared . . . you kin see thet by the *Daily Noos*. . . . The larst thing they want is a General Election. . . . They know wot it 'ud mean. . . . It 'ud mean the loss of £5,000 a year for the bosses an' four 'undred a year for the rank an' file. . . . No, sir, I don't wanter be uncharitable, but ain't it *h*obvious? . . . If they thinks the country is be'ind them, as they ses it is, w'y the blazes—'scuse me, sir—w'y on *h*earth don't they go to it, an' git a fresh lease of power? . . . Ulster would *'ave* to knuckle down then, sir, with the weight of English opinion against 'em. . . . But the Radical pawty knows diff'rent. . . . They knows the country's fair sick of 'em and is on'y waitin' fur the chance to give 'em a shove into the cold shades of *h*oppersition . . . so they're scared. . . . They're shakin' like a dorg parssin' 'errin' bones, if you'll excuse the meatafore.

Spray, as usual, sir? . . . Thank you, sir. . . . But they'll 'ave to face the music, sir. . . . I don't see 'ow they kin 'elp it, arfter wot you've said. . . . If it 'ad bin Mr. Boner Lore it wouldn't 'ave *h*upset them ser much. . . . They don't seem to mind 'im. . . . But w'en *you* speaks, they yelp like a w'ipped puppy. . . . I 'ope you'll keep on a-goin' it, sir. . . . Rub it in, sir. . . . I *beg* yore pawdon, sir, I didn't know I wos a-rubbin' you so 'ard—that's torkin' polertics. . . . A little powder as usual, sir? . . . Very good, sir. . . . You ain't orften in London w'en the 'Ouse is up, sir. . . . But I kin guess there's somethink in the wind, sir. . . . I s'pose you're 'ere *in magneto*, as the sayin' is. . . . Any'ow, you kin depend *I* shan't blow the gaff, sir. . . . I'd cut me own 'air first, sir, that I would! *Thank* you, sir. . . . Much obliged, I'm shore. . . . The same generous gent, thet you are, sir. . . . Good evenin', sir. . . . An' good luck!

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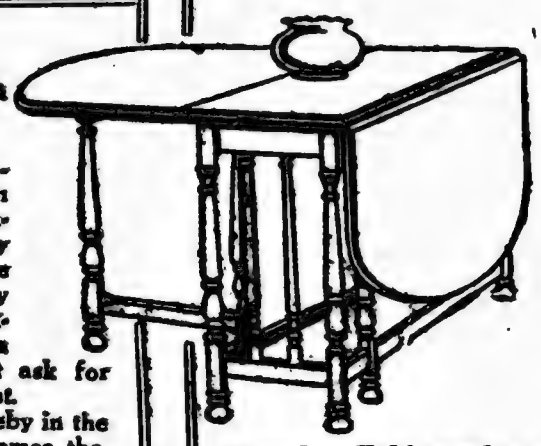

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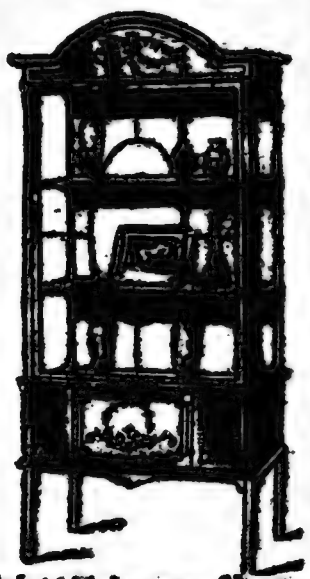
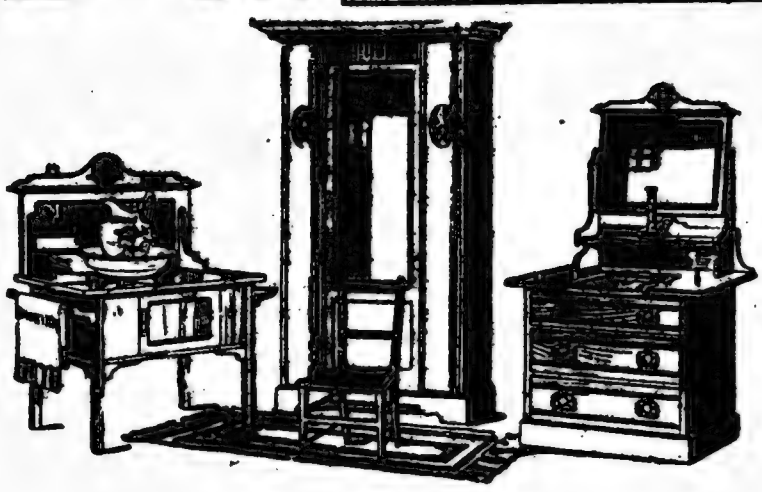


Inlaid Mahogany Sheraton Style China Cabinet, beautifully finished and lined. £3 3 0



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John Bull's Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received, consequent upon the continual growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag,"* AND ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

CORRESPONDENTS desiring INFORMATION *should place their questions in* CONCISE *form and refrain from sending* VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTS, *at any rate until asked for them. The Editor is quite unable to devote the time necessary for perusing and considering the scores of folios which correspondents sometimes send.*

For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 428.
For Sporting Replies, see page 432.

H. W. R. (Welshpool).—The handbill of the local magnetic healer, Evans, "Heal The Sick. . . . God has provided herbs, roots, barks, and seeds. . . . Eyes a speciality; I have hundreds of living testimonials. . . . Special recipe for Ladies from 2s. 6d. . . . God Is Love," is cant with intent to make a profit.

"A MOTHER" (Liverpool).—There is no "presumption" on your part in addressing us; in fact, we have read your very long and thoughtful letter with interest, but we fear it will be a long time before even Mr. Lloyd George dare venture as far in socialist economics as to nationalise the "working mother."

D. B. (Forest Gate).—Your literary excursions into the poetic use of D——you even quote from the "Vision of Judgment": "Here crash'd a sturdy oath of stout John Bull, Who damn'd away his eyes as heretofore") have been exceedingly painstaking.

J. W. (Kirkwall).—As you "cannot ask us to read all Mr. Wason, M.P.'s, piffle (to wit, his speech at Stromness), but only to give it a scan," we scan that a lady told him the other day that at a bazaar there was an effigy of Mr. Lloyd George. "You paid sixpence to enter the booth, and when inside you had the pleasure of trampling on his face for sixpence extra." Here endeth the scan.

W. P. W. G. (Camborne).—The local paper which published Rattenbury's tarradiddle will answer your purpose. We cannot think of using a steam hammer to crack a nut.

A. N. (St. John's Wood).—You inquired for it on a previous occasion, didn't you? The address of the National Deaf Club is 280, Euston Road, N.W., Mr. A. J. Wilson, president.

G. T. S. (Holytown).—Mr. Theodore Dahle asks us to inform you that the Bobby Burns mentioned in his recent article, "Are the Modes Moral?" was a celebrated bard of Ayrshire, who discovered Scotland.

G. F. (W. Croydon).—You would "very much like" to call our attention to your two cases "just happened at the Croydon Bench." Doing as you like to do, you do do, you do.

H. B. T. (Ashington).—The cigar you name is not propagated on our premises.

A. H. W. (Fulham, S.W.).—What makes you think we are "always willing to accept funny sayings from children"? The one you send raised but the faintest flicker of a smile. The innocence of children is not, in our opinion, fair game for laughter.

"SHAREHOLDER" (Gt. Yarmouth).—Our Publisher has your letter *re* motor tour, and would like to communicate with you. Will you kindly send full address?

T. D. (Shepherd's Bush).—Though you were injured three weeks ago, and are fully paid up in State Insurance, you have not yet had one penny, and you wish to know what you have paid your subscriptions for. In the words of the poet, to sit like Patience on a monument, smiling at grief.

"WATCHDOG" (Leeds) AND OTHERS.—It is a fact that there are one or two comps. on this paper armed with new-fangled spelling, and if they don't stop it they won't have any wages to take home to the missus. Like the Teuton who received the news that his wife had delivered him triplets, ve must schtop dees pisiness.

DR S. (Taunton).—Pooh, and even pooh-pooh! Maxse, of the *National Review*, is a wild, irresponsible, and unconscionable partisan.

A. L. (Wisbech).—On the face of it, Keal's sale bill is not much of a joke.

T. G. (London, N.W.).—Quite right that we offered Christmas prizes of turkeys for the best efforts promoting the sale of this paper. Did the friend who disputes with you want geese to keep him company?

MISS B. Y. (Dundee).—What do we know of the International Institute for Psychical Research, 8, Southampton Street, High Holborn, London? Nothing; but it is apparently concerned with the investigation of spooks.

J. A. (Kidderminster).—If you carefully read this page you would learn about most of the professional fool-catchers in this country, and would not have any need to ask us about those we so often expose.

"DONALD" (Hampstead) AND OTHERS.—See reply to "J. A." above; but for the hundredth time we will say that Hugh McKean, of the Mail Order concern; Elmer Sidney Prather, of the National Institute of Science; Elmer E. Knowles, of the Psycho-Success Club; Professor Roxroy, the handwriting "expert"; and Cairo, the Phrenologist, are, if not quite one and the same tremendous liar, at any rate in association for one and the same end—fleecing fools.

W. R. M. (Walthamstow).—Pleased you are pleased to have found such a bright and breezy bus conductor in London at the back of a "National."

J. H. F. (Purley).—"(Overheard in a railway carriage): The Young Man (suavely): 'That's a fine lot of black and white cows out there.' Young Lady (sceptically): 'Surely they are not cows, but bulls?'" She must wear *pince-nez*, that young woman.

A. M. (Lithbridge, Alt.).—Wait and see.

E. G. (Woodhall Spa).—For obvious reasons, we do not give addresses of private persons.

W. W. A. (Eastbourne).—"I should like to explain," so you begin your screed, "why in my reason there should be a national strike of railway workers." We should like to explain why in our reason there shouldn't; but we won't.

H. W. L. (London, N.E.).—"The enclosed letter has been sent here to an employee." We haven't looked at it, but we know the envelope. It is from that unquenchable prevaricator and charlatan, "Captain Rand."

E. G. (Herne Bay).—Can't tell you the height of the Russian giant, Manchow; but if you will send us a detailed plan of his feet we will calculate.

C. F. H. (Cosham).—The Seventh Day Adventists are a small sect continually on the look-out for the Millennium. They don't "drink" they don't smoke, and they are not supposed to eat pork.

H. B. (Wesley, R.S.O.).—Had you read your JOHN BULL attentively you would have seen our exposure of the Universal Trading Co., and our frequent criticisms of their methods.

"A READER" (Hither Green) asks us if we know of a ready market for "Hand-made Peter Pan sets." What on earth are "Peter Pan sets"? We dare say there are a good many openings for Peter Pancakes.

"KING DICK" (Coventry).—We doubt the ability of any Colonial employment agents to fulfil all their promises as to obtaining positions in Canada, the one you mention included. We would rather go out on "spec" than pay money away to such people. It might come in very handy on the other side.

J. E. E. (Hammersmith).—Because it is probable that vivisection experiments could be carried out with equal success on other animals not quite so near to our hearts as dogs—the prolific rabbit, for instance.

J. M. (Westfield, Mass.) AND DOZENS OF OTHERS.—The bluffing anti-British babble of the *Boston American* isn't worth the notice of a British codfish.

"WAITER" (Ilfracombe) complains very much about the conditions under which he is serving. Amongst other things, he says waiters have to sleep two in a bed. Why don't they take it turns about, one of them sleeping under the bed for a change—or try the Box and Cox method?

Have you done the Hat Trick yet? All about it on page 430.

W. F. J. (Croydon).—We are not aware that Messrs. Cadbury have any financial interest in the *Daily Chronicle*. Perhaps you are thinking of the *Daily News and Leader* and the *Star*, both of which are largely the property of the cocoa Quakers, racing news and liquor advertisements notwithstanding.

E. J. (London, W.C.) asks us to send one of our clerks to see her about some money some of her relatives have owed her for nearly three years. When our office boy comes back from his holiday we will see what can be done.

Miss M. B. (Glastonbury).—Write to the managers of all the papers you think you can sell, and tell them you are adding a newsagency to your business. The rest should follow. Display JOHN BULL and *Mary Bull* prominently, and you will soon work up a connection.

C. J. R. (London, N.E.) sends us some circulars he has received from a couple of self-styled employment agencies, and says "The ways and the wiles of the fee-snatching tribe are many. Don't you agree, eh?" We don't think it very wily for one of them to suggest to a stone-deaf man that he might obtain a job as steward on a liner, or a railway saloon attendant—although many engaged in those occupations certainly do seem hard of hearing, when we come to think.

G. H. (Cairo) sends us a cutting from the *Egyptian Morning News*, which reads: "The Scotch Temperature Bill passed the second reading without a division. The speeches indicated that the hope of a compromise can be reached—R. mrm-ois esp.e sdr, cadRg el el el el elel." Judging from the concluding remarks, the "temperature" of the Bill's opponents was rising.

J. McB. (Glasgow).—You should have read your JOHN BULL more attentively, and you would not have been so foolish as to send 1s. 11d. to the Universal Trading Company. So far as you are concerned, their motto is "Pay on, Macbeth, and we'll be damned if we cry Hold!"

F. H. (Wednesbury) points out another risk Canadian emigrants run. It appears that farm hands are sometimes done out of their wages by their employers, who plead various excuses for inability to pay. Moral, if you *will* go to Canada, don't leave the farm till you've got your dollars.

W. H. S. (Northampton).—As you have complained to the Local Government Board about the condition of affairs at the infirmary, you had better wait and see the result. We have no desire to supersede the functions of a Government department except when absolutely necessary.

J. V. (Bath).—If what you tell us is true, the Weymouth confectioners who work their young lady assistants nearly 100 hours per week, and give them no regular hours for meals, are making themselves liable to prosecution under the Shops Act. As you feel sure we "would not allow such 'slavery' to exist without a protest," we hereby utter one.

H. W. (Folkestone).—You do not appear to have enjoyed yourself at Dover. A fried Dover sole washed down with Leney's ale would have done you more good than paying away so much money to "sharks" to see the "sights."

"VERY INTERESTED."—We are not surprised that an inmate of a lunatic asylum should win in a newspaper competition. Many lunatics are less insane in some respects than those outside. For example "Q in the Corner," whose letter was recently published in the *Birmingham Mail*, is presumably at large.

"INQUIRER" (Lowestoft).—Almost any system of physical exercises will increase the height of young people to a certain extent. But we do not know whether Arthur Gervan's is any better than the rest, nor whether it is worth 25s. to add an inch or so to one's stature. Many of the greatest men were, and are, short, remember.

"C. J." (Northampton).—We are inclined to think that "buskers" do not come under the compulsory section of the National Insurance Act, their work being "precarious personal employment." All the same, as "voluntary" subscribers they should be entitled to the medical benefits reserved for such, though how they can obtain them out of reach of their panel doctor we cannot see. Ask Mr. Lloyd George.

"WAIT AND SEE" (Manchester) is anxious to obtain a berth on the West Coast of Africa. He should answer advertisements, and then wait and see.

D. R. O. (E. Croydon) wants to know whether there is an elector in England with 30 Parliamentary votes. No doubt there is, and why not?

E. B. A. (Chippenham).—What on earth has Mrs. Pankhurst to do with Napoleon? And for heaven's sake don't write us with scarlet ink again. We have been seeing red ever since.

"CLARE MARKET" (Llanelly) tells us of stoppages out of wages by a certain firm in Llanelly which seem to us altogether wrong. As we are not on the spot, however, we are unable to endorse his complaint. Our friend should bring it to the notice of his trade union.

M. S. (Caithness).—Your "hyperborean epistle" doubtless deals with a subject demanding inquiry. That may be the reason why you have obtained no satisfaction from the Chancellor of the Exchequer. As to whether your "valiant Scottish Home Ruler radical, and high legal authority, the Lord Advocate" is "politically somnolent," wait till the opening of the great Land Campaign. We are inclined to think you'll find Ure wrong.

W. H. K. (Cheltenham).—If one of the conditions of the employment is the infliction of fines on failure in your duty, you must submit to it or get another job. We cannot determine its justice or injustice in your case on your *ex parte* statement.

W. S. (Manor Park).—Most of these "home employment" advts. are published with the idea of parting fools and their money. If you send yours to Redmond, of Boston, Mass., U.S.A., the mirror-silvering person, you will be one of them.

"NO FOOL."—We think the cheque for 30s. on the Bairns' Branch of the Fruits Bearing Bank was well worth a penny. If you feel that you were taken in, you must blame your own avarice in wanting and expecting to get something for nothing.

"NELPUR" (Harlesden, N.W.).—We give no countenance to professional Competition solutionists.

S. E. H. (Marple).—Your remarks regarding skippers of sailing ships and tramp steamers who trade, to their considerable profit, on the wants of their crew, merely confirm what we have already published on this question.

"PARKER, P.C." (Upper Norwood).—So you think 22s. per week is too small a wage for standing 11½ hours a day at the railway station gates trying to look like a policeman. It may be; but the remedy is in your own hands, not in ours.

M. D. M. (Ystradgynlais).—Money-lenders are of three kinds—good, bad, and indifferent. But we strongly advise you to have no dealings with any of them.

"CONSTANT READER" (Liverpool).—We know nothing about the "Women's Canadian Employment Bureau," of Montreal, and 188, Upper Parliament Street, Liverpool. Be sure you obtain some proof of their *bona fides* before doing business with them.

G. T. (Dublin).—We have not published the paragraph on Irish Railway management which you say you sent us because it does not appear to have reached us. Try again.

H. A. W. (Plymouth) wants to know "in what edition of *The Times* did Charlotte Brontë's letters appear." We are not *The Times*. The inquiry should be addressed to Printing House Square.

H. E. (Burton-on-Trent).—There are many ways of getting into a bank. Certainly, an examination is necessary—of the bolts and other fastenings. As to whether it is a good position to hold, it *is*—provided you don't hold it too long and get caught. You don't *have* to "know Bank managers that have influence," but you are liable to make their acquaintance subsequently.

"DOUBTFUL" (London, W.) wants to know "why in heaven's name a man may not marry his deceased wife's sister's daughter." Why on earth should he want to?

W. R. B. (Edinburgh).—So you have lost so many nights' rest through reading one of our recent replies in this column. You should try a cold sponge every morning, and abstain from porridge and beans.

A. P. (Manchester).—There is nothing new under the sun so perhaps you won't be surprised that old Ecclesiastes said that, and even he probably stole it before he said it, for did he not amplify as thus: "Is there anything whereof it may be said, 'This is new'? It hath been already of old time, which was before us."

W. R. B. (Portadown).—Write to the Emigrants' Information Office, Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W. All we can tell you about New Zealand is that emigrants are not welcomed there very warmly unless they bring plenty of cash with them.

E. H. (Haywood).—You say you have a question to ask us. Well, what is it?

T. B. (Aldershot).—The licensee of a public-house is entitled to refuse to serve a person with liquor without explaining the reason why. In this respect he enjoys the same rights as an ordinary shopkeeper. And why not?

F. S. W. (Merthyr).—We cannot say whether "Pinkerton's Advertisers' Protection Agency and Enquiry Offices," of 5, Fenchurch Street, E.C., is a branch of the famous American Detective Agency. We are inclined to doubt it, but are open to conviction.

"SINGLE" (S. Wales) suggests that we ought to include in our Business Government programme a Bill to compel married men to wear a wedding ring, to protect unsuspecting women from base deceivers. A ring through the nose would be the only efficient safeguard. It would also be useful for leading purposes. Thanks for kind wishes.

(A large number of replies are held over.)

Result of our First Football Contest. See page 401.

Bull's Eyes.

Notes of Interrogation:—

Does Lloyd George want "the earth"?
Is India likely to be too hot for Maud Allan?
Hasn't King Constantine put the "fat" in the fire?
Isn't the War Office getting considerably "rattled"?
Is the General Election likely to be a "near" thing?
Isn't Germany "sinking" a lot of money in airships?
Isn't Harry Thaw more of a "tripper" than a tourist?
Aren't authors saying that the Libraries are rather too "free"?
Aren't they saying "McAdoo about Nothing" in New York?
If the postmen strike, after how many "rounds" would they win?
Shouldn't "Girls" have been produced at the "Court" Theatre?
Does the Kaiser think that a little "Greece" will help Germany along?
Doesn't the Premier hope that Mrs. Pankhurst will spend "a good time" in America?

* * *

Alternative Book Titles:—

Tantalus; or, *Empty Again.*
The Little Nugget; or, *Shine, Sir?*
The Way of Ambition; or, *Weigh Out.*
The Dust of the Road; or, *Real Grit.*
Sandy Married; or, *Those Carrotty Kids.*
The Grill Mystery; or, *The Hot Sausage.*
The Morning's War; or, *The Breakfast Battle.*
The Land of the Spirit; or, *Hail, Caledonia!*
The Woman Thou Gavest Me; or, *Er—Thanks, Awf'lly.*
The Second-class Passenger; or, *Dodging the "Jumper."*
The Remington Sentence; or, *That Second-hand Machine.*
Light Fingers and Dark Eyes; or, *The Punished Pick-pocket.*
The Romance of a Few Days; or, *Fourteen Hard, Without the Option.*

* * *

Biscuits for Everyone:—

Toper—Mixed.
Sailor—Ocean.
Gardener—Seed.
Jeweller—Pearl.
Old Lady—Tea.
Printer—Nonpareil.
Young Lady—Nice.
Washerwoman—Soda.
Safe-maker—Combination.
Teetotaler—Water-crackers.
Weary Willie—Lunch (fancy).
Dishonest Baker—Short-bread.
Chairman at Public Dinner—Toast.

* * *

Phrases Sometimes Misunderstood:—

"Just lift that sheet and spanker."
"He plays the villain quite naturally."
"I lost no time in reading your book."
"Don't let her go too near the buoys."
"Your cigars are unmatched anywhere."
"That pretty girl has been pulling my leg."
"He has his father's nose but his mother's mouth."
"Let's keep his place. Lay this stick across his seat."
"He hasn't taken his seat. Do you think he had the whip?"
"Yes, I'm a bricklayer; and I should like to see my son on the scaffold."
"Sorry I cannot stop," said the pretty lass. "I have a pressing engagement with Jack."

* * *

The man that a woman marries for pity deserves all he gets.

* * *

We all want the earth, but in the end it is the earth that gets us.

* * *

The flesh of the giraffe is said to be delicious eating. Which is the "best end of the neck"?

* * *

The statement that decay in teeth is due to a contagious disease will make lovers look down in the mouth.

* * *

Mexico has a church, the seating capacity of which is about ten. Do they call the minister's job a "living"?

* * *

"The Government is murdering women," reads a suffragette placard. Some of them are undoubtedly "lady-killers."

* * *

Mr. Donald, editor of the *Daily Chronicle*, says that one day we shall have our newspapers laid on like gas and water. There's a lot of gas and water about some of the dailies already.

A new book is entitled "The Lodger." Apparently it has come to stay.

* * *

Funny that, although a man can't see with a glass eye, it improves his "looks."

* * *

Boy Scouts are using newspapers as stove fuel. Well, most of them are dry enough.

* * *

Kodak won a race the other day. Naturally a horse so-called would "take" the stakes.

* * *

A Devonshire farmer whistles for his ducks to come to be fed. They're geese if they don't.

* * *

"Courting Couple Shot," we read. Someone must have been making game of them.

* * *

"Girls," is the name of a new farcical comedy. The "boys" won't be able to keep away.

* * *

Leopard-skin coats for women are to be the fashion. The rage at present is for bare-skin.

* * *

"Peer as Actor," reads a headline. This is a change from the usual "Actress as Peeress."

* * *

"A horse is like a man," says a contemporary. Yes, a "bridal" keeps both in order.

* * *

Essex labourers are suffering from a surfeit of rabbits. Absolutely "fed up" with them, in fact.

* * *

The man who waits for things to "come his way" generally finds that he is on the wrong road.

* * *

Lights Out won at Lewes, Partial Eclipse being second. The others were quite extinguished.

* * *

The fact that a mill-girl has written a novel is not surprising; she has had practice in spinning yarns.

* * *

The King's children while at Balmoral were taught the Highland reel. They cottoned to it quickly.

* * *

"There are no suffragettes in my country," says the King of Uganda. We hope he "touched wood."

* * *

Bees have invaded artificial heather on a lady's hat. There are other ladies with bees in their bonnets.

* * *

At the Bakers' Exhibition was a cake sixteen feet high and twenty-five feet in circumference. It took it.

* * *

Hebrew is being taught in Palestine schools. After this we shall expect to find English taught in England.

* * *

Mr. Carnegie thinks millionaires should pay very high taxes. Most of us are not millionaires—but we pay 'em.

* * *

"There is room for a tobacco Lipton in London," says an expert. But London is full of tobacco lipped 'uns.

* * *

The Leytonstone burglars who "secured a few coppers only," must be thankful the coppers did not secure them.

* * *

City Police have arrested 350 stray dogs during the past twelve months. This does not include "gay" dogs.

* * *

A "garter-watch" to be worn with a slashed skirt is the latest. All the men will be wanting to know the time.

* * *

A German doctor says that black rye bread is better than white. Rye bread would mean wry faces in this country.

* * *

When the lawyer died they put on his tombstone, "Here lies James Parchment." And his friends said, "Then he is still at it."

* * *

The critic who complains of the "uninteresting goodness" of the literature of the day must have been singularly lucky in his choice.

* * *

There is to be no orchestra at the Duke of York's Theatre when it re-opens. The intervals will be "dragtime" instead of ragtime.

* * *

A Washington man has been punished for stealing his wife's teeth. Perhaps it was the only way to make her keep her mouth shut.

"AS SAFE AS THE JOHN BULL BANK."

FINAL COUPON THIS WEEK. CLOSES SEPT. 26.

£1,750 This Time!

FOR ALL FORECASTS CORRECT — NO FEES, NO COALS

The final coupon appears on our cover this week. This is your last opportunity of participating in our Second Great Football Skill Contest. We offer the mammoth cash prize of £1,750, with huge cash contingent prizes of £500 and £100, as well as a special £50 "mauve" coupon prize. Thus at least £650 must be won. Send in your entries at once. The contest closes Friday, Sept. 26th.

AT LEAST £650 MUST BE WON

Our Football contests give our readers the advantage not only of the Biggest Football Prizes but a system of judging that is perfect. At enormous expense we have set up an organisation that assures every entrance form being carefully scrutinised by an expert competition staff. All risk of coupons being overlooked is eliminated, and fraud rendered utterly impossible.

£500
FOR NEAREST FORECASTS SHORT OF FULL NUMBER.
(Must be won.)

£100
FOR NEXT HIGHEST CORRECT.
(Must be won.)

£50
FOR A MAUVE COUPON.
(Must be won.)

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO

is to forecast the results of the League Games to be played on **Saturday, September 27th,** given on the Entrance Form on page 2 of our cover. Draw your pen plainly through the name of the team you think will lose. If you predict a draw, do not cross out either team.

£1,750 will be paid to the Competitor sending us an Entrance Form containing correct forecasts of all the matches given, played to a finish, even if THE NUMBER BE ONLY 8 OR 10.

Abandoned Matches make No Difference.

In the event of no Entrance Form being received giving the whole of the correct results

£500 IN CASH

will be paid to the competitor giving most correct forecasts short of the full number. We shall also pay the sum of

£100 IN CASH

The RULES and
COUPON
will be found
on
PAGE 2 of COVER.

to the Competitor sending the next highest number of correct forecasts, and **£50 in cash** will be paid to the lady sending in most correct forecasts on a *mauve* coupon taken from *Mary Bull*. Should it happen that the first prize of £1,750 be not won, we shall, in any event, still award the £500 as well as the £100, and the £50 *Mary Bull* mauve coupon prize. Thus

£650 MUST BE WON.

YOU CAN SEND AS MANY ENTRIES AS YOU LIKE, and any number can be enclosed in the same envelope, but every coupon must be signed by the person making the forecasts.

The competition is one of pure skill, and competitors should make a point of studying the football columns of the daily papers.

Our system of checking the Entrance Forms of competitors is as perfect as human ingenuity can make it. Fraud is rendered absolutely impossible, whilst all risk of a coupon being overlooked is, by our elaborate arrangements, totally eliminated.

£50 FOR A "MAUVE" COUPON.

We again offer a Special Prize for lady competitors. The sum of £50 will be paid to the lady sending more correct forecasts than any other lady competitor, *providing the entrance form is a "mauve" one taken from "Mary Bull."* This is a distinct and *additional* prize. By using a "mauve" coupon lady competitors have the same opportunity as JOHN BULL competitors of winning the £1,750, or the £500 and £100; but in addition a "mauve" coupon means you have the opportunity of winning *an extra* £50 prize. The final "mauve" coupon will be found in *Mary Bull*, on sale Friday, September 19th. Our readers should take advantage of this special £50 prize offer for a "mauve" coupon signed by a lady.

THE BIGGEST FOOTBALL PRIZE OFFER MADE BY ANY PAPER.

After you have filled up your entries for this competition, turn to page 430 where you will find particulars of "Bullets," a simple and attractive Competition which you should not fail to enter. A first prize of £500 in cash is offered this week, in addition to more than 5,000 cash and other valuable prizes.

THE "JOHN BULL" FOOTBALL CUP SWEEPSTAKE.

Readers desiring particulars MUST write direct to Messrs. SMALLMAN & TERRY. GENEVA. SWITZERLAND.

OUR 47TH "BULLETS" COMPETITION.

SOUTHAMPTON ENGINEER WINS THE GREAT PRIZE OF £500.

Mr. R. Axe, of Cliftonville, Portsmouth Road, Woolston, Southampton, the winner of the £500 prize in our 47th "Bullets" Competition, thanks us for the "splendid prize received and paid into the Bank safely"! He says that it was indeed a pleasant surprise for him when he opened our letter and found it to contain the announcement of his success and the cheque for the huge prize. Mr. Axe does not give us any particulars regarding himself,

merely stating that he is twenty-three years of age and "in the engineering line." His great achievement has come after twenty-four attempts, during which he has been cheered by several small consolation prizes. His advice to competitors is "stick to it," despite failures, as perseverance wins in the end. Mr. Axe is a warm admirer of the general policy of this journal, as he believes it has "brightened many lives and saved many poor men from human sharks."

The original of the above cheque will be on view at the premises of Messrs. Buxeys, Ltd., Newsagents, Bridge Street, Southampton, until September 24th.

What is your Number?

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and PUBLISHED IN THE FOLLOWING ISSUE.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL *of specified date*, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of TWO GUINEAS in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all the work done.

The following correct claims have been received:—

Mrs. E. BAVERSTOCK, 19, Sandtoft Road, Charlton, S.E. August 30th. 674,587.

Mr. GEO. BURKE, 121, Parish Lane, Penge. September 6th. 174,587.

Mr. J. W. MICHAEL, 36, Thomas Street, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough. August 30th. 718,781.

Mr. FRANK STEIN, 29, Seventh Avenue, Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne. August 2nd. No. 714,145.

Mr. J. JONES, 33, Mount Pleasant, Cefn Mawr, Ruabon. August 30th. No. 534,966.

Mr. J. B. MORRIS, Coldbrydwen Place, Kingsbridge Road, Gorseinon, Glam. August 23rd. No. 080,326.

Mr. A. J. BALKWILL, Ivy Cottage, Brayton Road, Selby. August 2nd. No. 516,556.

Mr. J. McBURNIE, 52, Corporation Street, Manchester. August 30th. No. 199,304.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of September 13th:—

1712	207314	366614	523170	776634
17665	213814	375208	567157	808287
54745	221121	382853	588477	847712
64877	240050	415790	611007	860117
70558	251567	451030	632804	917697
78431	261872	461647	668033	939112
95399	273596	467323	688477	951710
113921	311803	478077	707093	984504
147098	329368	492730	721912	A074231
183605	355181	501419	751908	A106915

The A prefixed to the drawn numbers indicates it is plus a million.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR NEXT ISSUE (PUBLISHED SEPTEMBER 24TH).

Listen!

Ask for my Black Cat Cigarettes always; no cigarette at the price can compare with them in mildness, high-class finish and total absence of "bite." Black Cat is a "10 for 3d." cigarette with a "10 for 6d." flavour. Try it and prove it.

Black Cat CIGARETTES

SAVE YOUR COUPONS

Every packet, box or tin of Black Cat Cigarettes contains one or more coupons, which can be exchanged for handsome Profit-sharing Gifts. A full list of these is in every packet.

STAMMERING.

Method adopted and subsidised by Governments. Highest awards for excellency. No drawling, sing-songing or time b-ating. Cure perfect and infallible with no objectionable rules to follow after treatment. Trial free. Fees only payable when satisfied.

Write for particulars to:

Mr. G. A. Yearsley, Specialist, Matlock Bath.

FITS CURED.

I will send you FREE a bottle of a famous London Physician's Remedy for FITS, and all forms of Epilepsy. OZERINE has cured permanently the very worst cases when everything else had failed. From the first dose Fits usually cease. Thousands of testimonials. 25 years' invariable success in all parts of the world. A postcard sent now will bring the Remedy by return without charge or obligation.—I. W. NICHOLL, PHAR. CHEM. (Dept. 2), 25, High Street, Belfast.

SAVE UP FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR.

THE

JOHN BULL BANK

will pay 5 PER CENT. INTEREST.

upon all sums deposited with it, and will repay principal and interest on the 18th December, 1913, or at any time thereafter. No notice of withdrawal required.

Full particulars on application to the Manager, The JOHN BULL BANK, Jewry House, Old Jewry, London, E.C.

"Gale's Special"

The "SPECIAL" that Guarantees Your Success.

"Fewer Selections and more Winners than any of its rivals." *Vide The Sportsman.*

PROOF! PROOF! PROOF!

It must be distinctly understood that the Editor of "Gale's Special" deals exclusively with two races a day never giving more than two selections for each day's racing. Since the commencement of the Flat-Racing Season this year to September 11th there have been

138 Racing Days

and during that time "Gale's Special" has given no less than

201 Winning Selections,

which have included LOUVOIS (25 pts.) for the Two Thousand Guineas; KLEINFONTEIN (10 pts.) for the Payne Stakes; LORENZO (4½ pts.) for the Manchester Cup; ST. MERIADOC (12½ pts.) for the Stewards' Handicap; GREAT SURPRISE (5 pts.) for the Windsor Castle Handicap; LOMOND (3 pts.) for the Trial Stakes; RIVOLI (14 pts.) for the Alexandra Handicap; DIADUMENOS (10 pts.) for the July Handicap; PICTORIAL (7 pts.) for the Great Kingston T.Y.O. Plate POTENCY (10 pts.) for the Wistow Hall Breeders' Foal Plate; LONG SET (2½ pts.) for the Liverpool Cup; CATMINT (12½ pts.) for the Goodwood Cup; STORNAWAY for the Gimcrack Stakes; CIGAR for the Peveril of the Peak Plate; AT LAST for the Prince Edward Handicap, and HORNET'S BEAUTY (4½ pts.) for the Portland Handicap.

It has been such results as these that have inclined the whole of the Sporting Press of Great Britain to favourable comment upon the "Special that guarantees your success" and which led The Sportsman to remark that Gale's Special "gives fewer selections and more winners than any of its rivals."

To every reader of "JOHN BULL" enclosing this paragraph, together with 15s. we will send post free in plain sealed envelope all copies of "GALE'S SPECIAL" to the end of the season; all occasional Private Letters sent out; and next Saturday's Tattersall's Ring Wire.

Sportsmen requiring unequalled and sterling intelligence should subscribe for . .

Gale's Primus Wire

The Most Successful Service Ever Inaugurated.

On Wednesday, September 10th, all subscribers received

DORMANT (9-2) Won.
DORMANT (9-2) Won.
DORMANT (9-2) Won.
DORMANT (9-2) Won.

Nothing else whatever mentioned.

The charge for this Special "Gale's" Primus Wire is TWENTY-FIVE POUNDS PER MESSAGE. It amounts to this, ONE SELECTION ONLY—THE BEST SELECTION THAT MONEY, BRAINS, AND INFLUENCE CAN PROCURE.

As a Special Offer to "JOHN BULL" readers we will send the next Special Primus Wire from Leicester on Tuesday, September 23rd, upon receipt of £10, instead of the usual charge of £25,

and unless the selection sent out is successful, and at reasonable odds, we guarantee to send you one of our famous Tattersall's Ring Wires entirely free of charge. On the other hand, should the selection win at the odds of not less than 8 to 1 against, subscribers will, of course, forward the balance of £15.

Note that our ONLY address is:—

"Gale's Special,"

Ruskin Buildings, Birmingham

Telegraphic Address: "WINNERS, Birmingham."

TOBACCO HABIT

Conquered in 3 Days:

I offer a genuine guaranteed Remedy for tobacco or snuff habit in 72 hours. It is mild, pleasant, strengthening. Overcomes that peculiar **nervousness** and craving for **cigarettes, cigars, pipe, chewing tobacco,** or **snuff**; they are **poisonous** and seriously **injurious to health,** causing such disorders as nervous dyspepsia, **sleeplessness, gas belching, gnawing,** or other uncomfortable sensation in stomach; **constipation, headache, weak eyes, loss of vigour, red spots on skin, throat irritation, asthma, bronchitis, heart failure, lung trouble, catarrh, melancholy,** neurasthenia, impotency, loss of memory and will power, impure (poisoned) blood, rheumatism, lumbago, sciatica, neuritis, **heartburn, torpid liver, loss of appetite,** bad teeth, **foul breath, enervation,** lassitude, **lack of ambition,** falling out of hair, baldness, and many other disorders. **It is unsafe and torturing** to attempt to cure yourself of tobacco or snuff habit by merely stopping—don't do it. The gentle, safe, agreeable way is to **eliminate the nicotine poison** from the system, strengthen the weakened, irritated membranes and nerves, and genuinely overcome the craving. You can give up tobacco and enjoy yourself a thousand times better, while feeling always in robust health. My FREE book tells all about the **wonderful three days' method.** Inexpensive, reliable. Also **Secret Method** for conquering habit in another **without his knowledge.** Full particulars, including my **book on Tobacco and Snuff Habit,** sent in plain wrapper, **FREE.** Don't delay. Keep this; show it to others. This advertisement may not appear again. Address, **EDWD. J. WOODS, 10, Norfolk Street (306 T.N.), LONDON, W.C.**

STOP RUINING YOUR LIFE

SECRET FREE

"FOOTBALL WORLD" IS YOUR OYSTER TO-DAY.

£350 WEEKLY. £350 WEEKLY.

£250 FOR 10 CORRECT RESULTS.
£100 „ 9 „ „

All football enthusiasts wishing to get into touch with a simple, genuine and interesting competition which will provide them with a highly lucrative and harmless pastime throughout the football season should write to address given below for full particulars.

PREMIER AWARD WINNERS—SEASON 1912-13.

				£	s.	d.
September	2nd	5	gained	50	0	0
„	7th	7	„	35	14	3
„	14th	6	„	41	13	4
„	21st	5	„	50	0	0
„	28th	7	„	35	14	3
October	5th	25	„	10	0	0
„	12th	7	„	35	14	3
„	19th	9	„	27	15	6
„	26th	14	„	17	17	1
November	2nd	135	„	1	16	2
„	9th	3	„	83	6	8
„	16th	15	„	16	13	4
„	23rd	3	„	83	6	8
„	30th	10	„	25	0	0
December	7th	4	„	62	10	0
„	14th	52	nines	4	16	1
	(No tens predicted)					
„	21st	12	gained	20	16	8
„	28th	2	„	125	0	0
January	4th	9	„	27	15	6
„	11th (£700 contest)	602	„	1	3	3
	(No Second Award)					
„	18th	170	„	2	1	2
	(No Second Award)					
„	25th	20	„	12	10	0
February	1st (£700 contest)	16	„	31	5	0
„	8th	11	„	22	14	6
„	15th	16	„	15	12	6
„	22nd (£500 contest)	78	„	4	9	8
March	1st	19	„	13	3	1
„	8th	5	„	50	0	0
„	15th	7	„	35	14	3
„	22nd, 24th	20	„	12	10	0
„	29th	47	„	5	6	4
April	5th	14	„	17	17	1
„	12th	34	„	7	7	0
„	19th	37	„	6	5	1
„	26th	1	„	250	0	0

The Proprietor:—**Mr. H. T. TERRY,** "FOOTBALL WORLD," GENEVA, SWITZERLAND,

has been established longer in Competition business than all others.

CITY NOTES.

[*For Financial and Insurance Letter Box, see page* 428.]

The Stock Markets.

In the absence of any other features in the Stock Markets generally, it is at least satisfactory to find that the American market is assuming its former pre-eminence as a speculative leader, and those who have believed in it are now doing well. Evidently the powerful Bull groups in Wall Street and in London have seized upon the right moment when all the adverse factors have been discounted to engineer a sharp Bear squeeze. The market tip of the moment is to buy Southern Pacifics and to sell Steels. We fail to see how Steels can maintain even their present level in the face of the great reductions in the tariff in the United States, which already has opened the way for British and Continental competition. Home Rails have at times attracted a little investment support, but the market is still being dogged by the petty labour troubles in various industrial centres, which are undoubtedly keeping quotations from rising to their true level. What we said last week about Mexicans still holds good. The American financiers refuse to leave Mexico alone, and until the Republic can raise sufficient money to cope with the revolutionary troubles the prospect is not bright. To turn to a more pleasant subject, the Oil share market provides scope for active investment and speculative business. Important new deals are coming on, the first of which is the acquisition by the Shell Transport-Royal Dutch Group of the California Petroleum enterprise for thirteen million dollars. It also appears probable that the Shell Transport will absorb the Kern River, while rumours have also been put about that the Shell will acquire the Mexican Petroleum. It is now apparently a fight between the Shell Transport and the Standard Oil groups as to which will acquire the Lobitos Oilfields.

The Mining market is working into a most promising position, and is showing more activity than has been the case for some time past. This applies specially to Rhodesians, where the alarmist reports of certain experts had caused quite a wave of pessimism, especially in the case of Falcons. Now, it is finally proved that the estimates of the company's own engineers were fully justified, and this will probably be the case with other mines, which have undeservedly come under suspicion. At all events, prices of Rhodesian mines, and also of the Land shares, are strongly on the top grade, and we predict that the latest Chartered move will prove one of considerable importance.

Another Market Introduction.

Now that the holidays are nearing their end, the introduction of shares in prospectless companies is being revived. One of the latest moves has been to bring to the notice of the public, by means of "making a market" in this manner, the shares of the Route Recording Advertiser, Limited. The company proposes to instal in railway carriages, street plans of places of interest on the line, surrounded by advertisements, the plans moving automatically as the train progresses. We remember that a similar scheme was promoted twelve years ago on the Underground by a company called Stations Indicator, Limited. The thing proved a total failure, and ran for less than a year. The present scheme may prove more successful, but the hole-and-corner manner in which its shares have been brought before the public does not indicate faith on the part of the promoters that the idea, if properly explained by means of a prospectus, would commend itself to investors.

The Wild Cats' Year Book.

The latest report of the Controller of the Companies Department of the Board of Trade, covering the year 1912, is on the same lines as its twenty-one predecessors. Statistical information is given as to the number of joint-stock companies hatched and despatched, and amongst the latter are 1,898 which died a more or less natural death and 151 upon whose bodies inquests were held. Amongst the 151 we recognise many whose fate was foretold in these columns, and about which the Controller now gives information that appeared in our columns years ago—at a time when they were being boomed by means of circulars and advertisements. It will, of course, be impossible to prevent the issue of wild cats, but we are still inclined to believe that if an official inquiry were instituted by the Board of Trade in the case of *all* companies which failed, the percentage of fraudulent enterprises would be greatly reduced. But the Board would have to be a real one, and the staff an expert one.

Consolidated Oilfields of South Africa.

According to an interesting article which recently appeared in the Johannesburg *Sunday Post*, Mr. Cunningham Craig, the Government oil expert, "approves generally" of the report made by Mr. J. E. Mills-Davies, the consulting engineer to the company. He makes some reservations, but his conclusions are apparently based upon his own individual theory of the origin of petroleum, which, it is interesting to note, is not shared by other leading authorities. Doubtless, however, his report, which may shortly be expected, will deal fully with his theory. Meanwhile, we are officially informed that Mr. Mills-Davies, who accompanied Mr. Cunningham Craig to Ceres, adheres in every respect to the report he has made and the advice he has given to the directors.

Industrial Assurance Policies.

The large number of heartrending letters we receive from policy holders satisfy us that serious discontent exists at the illiberal and scant consideration meted out to members who fall on evil days and have perforce to abandon their assurances. The absence of provision for the payment of a Cash Surrender Value or the issue of Free Paid-Up Assurances constitutes a grave public scandal, and so long as this state of affairs continues the slump in industrial assurance, as at present conducted, will become more pronounced. What hardship and suffering must be entailed in respect of policies which have been kept going for years and then discontinued, owing to inability to make any further payments, with the result that the whole of the moneys paid are confiscated, or, as the companies put it, "forfeited." This glaringly unjust treatment of the poor must be remedied, and it is little to be wondered at if the coming generation throw aside the offers of these capitalistic companies and demand a State Life Insurance.

East Kent Colliery Finance.

It is only when Mr. Arthur Burr is driven into a corner and wants money that one is able to obtain a peep into the financial morass into which he has plunged his creations. He is now in urgent need of £150,000 for his East Kent Colliery, Limited, which owes £50,000 to its bankers, £24,000 to trade creditors, and £50,000 to its allied companies—total, £124,000. Thus, over 82 per cent. of the amount which he seeks to raise will be spent as received. The remaining 18 per cent. is to be allocated to working equipment (some £24,000) and to working capital (some £5,000). The £150,000 is to be "secured" by means of 10 per cent. first mortgage debentures, at par, in the East Kent Colliery Company. One of the gems of the circular inviting subscription runs:—"This satisfactory arrangement has been facilitated by the co-operation and goodwill of the East Kent Contract Financial Company and allied companies." As the East Kent Contract and allied companies are all controlled by Arthur Burr and his associates, he could have had no difficulty in securing their "co-operation and goodwill." The whole thing is a financial extravaganza, so far as outsiders are concerned. To those, however, who find the money it may become a tragedy.

Taverner in Excelsis.

For sheer brazen audacity commend us to that hoary sinner William Taverner, to whose nefarious proceedings we have frequently drawn attention. His latest exploit has been to contrive the passing of a resolution by some of the dupes of his National Old Age Pension Trust (now bankrupt) protesting against a motor car purchased *out of* his wife's "Thanksgiving Fund" having been impounded by the Receiver. We cannot help thinking that there must be a limit to the forbearance with which Courts have hitherto treated this man.

Sopa—so Bad!

"Introduced" on the Stock Exchange some fifteen months ago, without a prospectus, the shares in the Sopa Diamond Mine, Limited, were speedily rushed to just under £4. They are now 2s. 6d. The rig was effected upon estimates giving the prospects of a yield of 5s. per load. The latest yield has been 1d. a load. If a yield of 60d. a load justified a quotation of 80 shillings, then a yield of 1d. a load would only justify a quotation of 16 pence; thus even the present price of 2s. 6d. is about double what it ought to be! Do we discern the Edmund Davis stable behind this scandal? It is repeating the history made by Anglo-Continentals last year.

International Bankers' Alliance.

We shall be obliged if any readers who have had dealings with the above will communicate with us.

GRAVES DEPENDABLE VALUES. GRAVES CONVENIENT TERMS.

GRAVES CYCLES.

The GRAVES 'Speed King' Modele de Luxe is the last word in Cycle-building excellence, and it is outside the resources of the Cycle Industry to produce anything better. Compare our specification with that of any other make of Cycle.

10/- NOW

WE DELIVER the Graves 'Speed King' Model de Luxe (Lady's or Gent's) guaranteed exactly to specification. Carriage Paid to all approved orders for **10/-** Now. Balance in equal Monthly Payments after delivery if you are entirely satisfied. The machine is fully guaranteed for Ten Years, and the fullest approval is allowed. If you are in any way disappointed, simply return the machine to us carriage forward, and we will immediately refund your money in full.

SPECIFICATION:

REYNOLDS' STEEL TUBING; DUNLOP FIRST GRADE TYRES; PHILLIPS TOKE & HINGE BRAKES; STURMEY-ARCHER 3-SPEED GEAR; HANS RENOLD ROLLER CHAIN; BROOKS' PLATED SPRING SADDLE; WILLIAMS CHAIN WHEEL & CRANKS; HOFFMANNS' STEEL BALLS AND DOVER GRIPS AND LEVER TIPS.

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A Post Card will bring our latest Catalogue of Cycles, exhibiting a full range of Ladies' and Gent's Models, including 'All-weather' all-black and Tradesmen's Carrier Cycles with detailed specifications and full particulars of our convenient and equitable Easy Payment Terms. It costs nothing to secure this interesting and practical book, and it saves you pounds.

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WE DELIVER the Graves Genuine Sheffield Cutlery Service comprising **80** pieces without case, to all approved orders for **3/-** Now, and the balance in nine monthly payments of **3/-** if you are entirely satisfied with the goods after full examination. **2/-** in the £ Discount Cash with order.

THE KNIVES are of well tempered genuine Sheffield Steel, fitted with Ivorette handles in perfect imitation of African Ivory. **The Spoons and Forks** are of Columbian Silver, a hard white metal indistinguishable from sterling silver. Will last a lifetime and wear white all through.

THE GRAVES SERVICE COMPRISES:

6 TABLE KNIVES	6 EGG SPOONS
6 TABLE FORKS	2 TABLE SPOONS
6 DESSERT KNIVES	1 SALT SPOON
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6 DESSERT SPOONS	1 SUGAR TONGS
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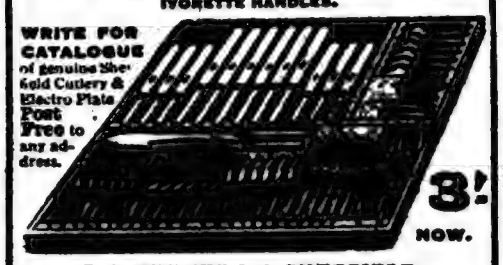
1 PAIR SHEAR STEEL CARVERS, CURVED BLADE IVORETTE HANDLES.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE of genuine Sheffield Cutlery & Electro Plate Post Free to any address.



3/- NOW.

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5/- Monthly.

Every lady should certainly send a post card for our handsome display of new and fashionable Costume Styles, charmingly illustrated in colours, and including patterns of the most tasteful and becoming cloths for present wear. Our pictures show the exact styles of the garments and the patterns enable you to judge the quality, appearance, and finish of the materials. Prices range from **21/-** up to **80/-**, and we deliver any costume carriage paid to approved orders for **5/-** now balance being payable in equal monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied with the Fit, Quality, and Value after you have tried the Costume on in your own home. If for any reason you are disappointed we will immediately return money in full.

You need have no hesitation in ordering from us, as quite apart from our positive guarantee of satisfaction, we offer you the choice of the finest productions of the foremost Costume-designers in the country. It is entirely owing to our enormous trade that we are enabled to command the services of the cleverest artists whose hands and brains are constantly evolving handsome models which lead the way in grace and elegance, and are endowed with distinctive charm and beauty. Even our lowest-priced styles are distinguished by an unmistakeable note of refinement which one is accustomed to look for only in garments offered at much higher prices.

SEND FOR PATTERNS. You will be amply repaid for writing, and will be surprised to find how easy it is to dress in good taste if you avail yourself of our convenient Easy Payment Terms or 2/- in the £ Cash Discount.

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SOUND FOOTWEAR

Has it ever occurred to you that you spend too much on your footwear? If so, you should send a post card to-day for our handsomely Illustrated **Album of High-grade Footwear** for Men, Women, and Children. This book contains photographs taken direct from an extensive selection of Boots & Shoes of sterling quality, all of which are made on the latest hygienic principles, and guaranteed to give satisfaction in fit, wear, and appearance. This book will show you how you can effectively curtail your boot bill. We deliver Footwear carriage paid to all approved orders on receipt of small payment now, and balance in equal monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied. **Ask for Boot Catalogue.**

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ELEGANT CLOCKS.

If you will write for our latest **Illustrated Catalogue of Clocks** you will be surprised at the great variety and elegance of the designs we show. This book displays Clocks of every description for all purposes, Dining Room, Drawing Room, Bedroom, Hall, and also for Schools, Hotels etc. Each clock is a model of grace and beauty, and the remarkably handsome design in Marbles, Woods and Metals are a revelation to those who have not previously seen our clock book. A point to note is: all our timepieces are of undeniable quality & precise adjustment which ensures accurate time-keeping and long service. Any clock delivered Carriage Paid to approved orders for a small payment now, balance in equal monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied after full examination. **2/-** in the £ Cash Discount. **Ask for Clock Book**

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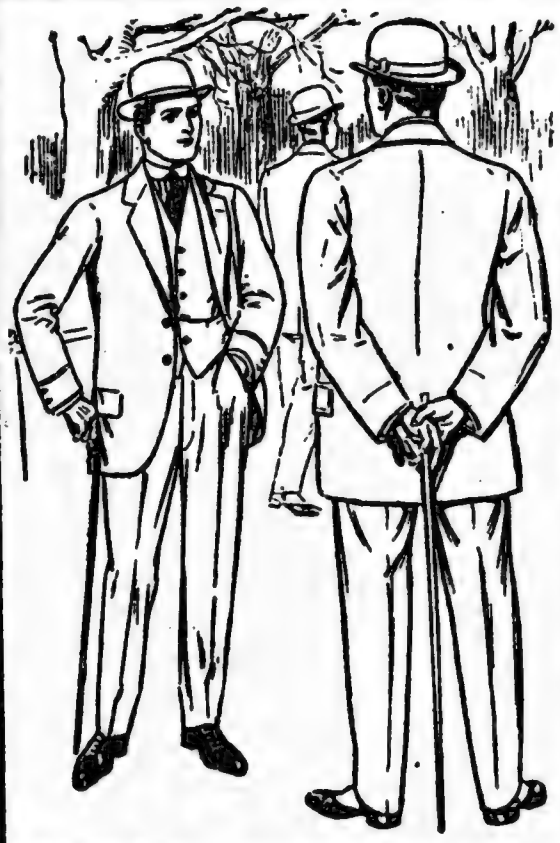
You should write at once for our enlarged catalogue, which contains some of the most beautiful examples of the Goldsmith's art ever printed on paper: Charming 18ct Gold Engagement and Dress Rings, skilfully set with Diamonds, Rubies, Emeralds, Sapphires, Pearls & other precious stones of guaranteed quality, elegant Gold Brooches, Pendants, Bracelets, of chaste design and exquisite finish, & also Necklets, Lockets, Seals, & Ladies' and Gents.' Watches in great variety all of the highest excellence.

5/- NOW

Our Book shows an enormous display of lovely Gold Jewellery at keenly competitive prices, all supplied carriage paid to approved orders on easy payment Terms or Discount for Cash with order. Fullest approval allowed, and your money immediately refunded in full if you are in any way disappointed. **Ask for Catalogue B**

J. G. Graves Ltd. SHEFFIELD



GRAVES TWO-GUINEA SUITS

Smartness of Dress as well as smartness of Brain is essential in the present day struggle for position. No one can afford to neglect his appearance. In business and society appearance means much, and it needs an exceedingly clever man to overcome the manifold disadvantages of shabby attire. It is not worth while to be poorly dressed when the convenience of the Graves system is considered. For **6/-** down you can secure a well-made, well-fitting suit, and spread the balance over the next few months.

6/- NOW

WE DELIVER your Suit exactly to your measures, Carriage Paid to approved orders, for **6/-** with order. The balance to be completed in monthly payments of **6/-** if you are entirely satisfied with the **Fit, Quality and Value** of the Suit after you have tried it on in your own home. Money instantly refunded in full if you are in any way disappointed.

IT WILL PAY YOU to look into this unusual clothing proposal. Send a postcard to-day and secure our full range of cloth samples we are now making up at **38/-** and **42/-** and including patterns of **Tweeds, Cheviots, Worsted Berges, Plain Black and Blue Vicunas**, and a splendid line in hard-wearing **Yorkshire Suitings.** Say if Light or Dark Patterns are preferred.

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD.

CHINA & GLASSWARE.

Nothing gives a meal a daintier look or does the housewife greater credit than a handsome service of china ware. Odds and ends, though good in themselves, completely spoil the effect of the most bountiful spread. In our new Catalogue of Glass and Chinaware will be found the choicest and prettiest Dinner and Tea Services one could wish to see, also graceful designs in Toilet and Trinket Sets, Clock Sets, & a large variety of useful and ornamental ware, all marked at keenly competitive prices, & delivered carriage paid to approved orders for small payment now, and balance in equal monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied after examination in your own home. Money back in full if you are disappointed. **2/-** in £ Discount.

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CLINCHER TYRES

We supply this world-renowned make of Tyre at rock-bottom cash prices on Easy Terms. Any grade of **'Clincher' Tyres** supplied to approved orders for small payment with order and the balance to be completed in equal monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied after full examination in your own home. All Tyres carry the Manufacturers' Guarantee.

The 'Clincher' Popular Tyre. Wired or Beaded edge, as ordered. Supplied 28 x 1½ only. Price, Cover and Tube, **11/3** 2/3 Monthly.

The 'Clincher' B Tyre. Wired edge. Supplied in the following sizes: 26 x 1¾; 28 x 1¾. 26 x 1½; 28 x 1½; 26 x 1¾; 28 x 1¾ Price, Cover and Tube, **12/1** 2/3 Monthly. Beaded edge, 3d. extra.

The 'Clincher' A Won Roadster Cycle Tyre, wired or beaded edge as ordered. Supplied in the following sizes: 26 x 1¾; 28 x 1¾; 26 x 1½; 28 x 1½; 26 x 1¾; 28 x 1¾ Price, Cover and Tube. **17/-** 2/10 Monthly.

The 'Clincher' Vacuum Grooved Tyre, with wired or beaded edge, as ordered. Supplied in the same sizes as the 'A Won' Tyre. Price, Cover and Tube, **18/-** 3/- Monthly.

WRITE FOR NEW CATALOGUE POST FREE

Send post card to-day for our handsomely illustrated Catalogue of 'Clincher' **Cycle** and **Motor Cycle** Tyres, all of which we supply on easy terms at cash prices. Prices from **7/6**

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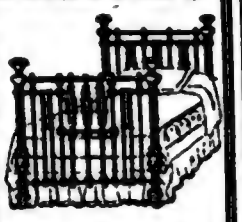
STRONG BEDSTEADS

In our beautifully **Illustrated Catalogue**, which we shall be pleased to send you on request, we show a splendid range of **Metal and Wood Bedsteads**, designed in tasteful style, and constructed throughout on sound up-to-date hygienic principles.



Any Bedstead delivered carriage paid to approved orders for small payment now and balance in equal monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied with appearance, quality, and value. **2/-** in £ Discount cash with order.

Graves Hygienic Bedding

Before purchasing Bedding of any description you should send for our **Bedding Catalogue.** We warrant our Bedding thoroughly clean and sterilised, and deliver any quantity, carriage paid, to approved orders, for small payment now and the balance in equal monthly payments.

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JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE LETTER-BOX.

Letters containing enquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, John Bull, 52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

Cunliffe, Russell and Co.—A. T. (Tufnell Park).—We note what you say, but Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell and Co. afford certain unique facilities to their clients which are not, we understand, obtainable from the other firms you mention.

Ankobra Rubber Estates.—N. D. P. Ankobra.—We do not think you can do any harm by supporting the Committee of Shareholders.

Fairburn et Cie.—E. H. (Accrington).—We understand that this business has recently changed hands, and have no special information as to the standing of the present proprietors.

Consolidated Oilfields of South Africa.—Mother of Many.—We understand the Exchange has discontinued business, but we suggest you should communicate with the South African Petroleum Exploration Syndicate, 80, Coleman Street, E.C., and we will follow the matter up with them.——N. M. (Bolton).—We certainly advise you to hold these shares. Apart altogether from its oil prospects, the Company is doing a large and prontable financial business.

Farrow's Bank.—Briars.—Quite safe. The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of shares.

British Orto Tyres.—F. S. (Hammersmith).—We certainly do not advise you to invest in these shares.

I. H. Bos and Co.—S. S. (Thornton Heath) and Others.—We have repeatedly warned our readers against these people.

Trouville Municipal Casino Co.—A. B. C. (Palmer's Green).—We understand that the profits from last season were not good owing to the disastrous summer, but better results are anticipated this year. If you write to the firm from whom you obtained the shares, they will no doubt advise you as to the best course to adopt.

Landau and Co. (Hamburg).—Motor.—We know nothing for or against this firm.

Galician Oil Lands and Royalties Trust.—G. L. T. (Cornwall).—From the information which reaches us, we still think well of this undertaking. We gather that you have not yet completed the payments due upon your shares, and, of course, you are liable for the amount of the balance. We are unable to advise in regard to the other matter you mention without fuller particulars.

London City and Midland Bank.—J. H. (Gunnersbury).—London City and Midland Bank shares are certainly an excellent purchase for investment, and yield about 5 per cent. per annum. Other good 5 per cent. yielding investments are Brighton Railway 6 per cent. Preferred at 122; Grand Trunk 4 per cent. Guaranteed at 85; and Vickers 5 per cent. Preferred stock at about par.

Ural Railway Navigation and Mining.—Russian.—No information is available as regards the position and prospects of this concern, and we do not advise a purchase of the shares. Nor are they currently dealt in.

Moribund Holdings.—W. A. H. (Benoni).—We have endeavoured to trace the various concerns in question, but find that they are either dead or moribund, and there is no quoted value for any of the shares.

Four to Four-and-a-Half Per Cent. Securities.—H. O. (Dover).—The following securities will meet your requirements:—Western Australian 4 per cent. at 100; Great Central 5 per cent. Preference of 1862 at 111; and Vickers 4 per cent. First Mortgage Debentures at 97. As regards Mexico N.W. Bonds, after the heavy fall it would hardly be advisable to sell now.

Motograph Film Co.—Anchor, Fast Anchor.—This concern does not appear in the usual books of reference, and it is not possible to give any definite opinion as regards its prospects. We strongly advise you not to take an interest in it, unless you obtain reliable and satisfactory information. There is no market in the shares.

Central London Railway.—G. J. M. (Bristol).—As the majority of the stockholders have consented to the arrangement with the Underground Electric Railways group, we are afraid that it is now useless to protest. Probably the accounts of the Company will show what has been done with the sums in question. You might note, by the way, that while the "Assented" Ordinary stock is quoted at 81, the old Ordinary stands at only 74, so that the arrangement must possess some tangible advantages.

Brimsdown White Lead.—Teucer.—Although this company has been established since 1900, it has not paid a dividend on either its ordinary or preference shares, while at the end of 1911 the debit balance exceeded £37,000. The outlook for the concern, under present conditions, seems hopeless. There is no market in the shares, and we doubt whether you could dispose of them unless a buyer wanted them for some special purpose, such as to secure voting rights.

John Bull Bank.—Cautious.—Perfectly safe and sound, and going very strong.——C. J. (Leith).—No, it is *not* our show. We wish it were!——Curious.—"Do we ourselves use it?" Certainly we do, and that is one of the reasons why we are able to recommend it.——Depositor.—You need have no anxiety. The Bank has ample funds and is under shrewd and expert management.

First Dutch Lottery Insurance.—S. M. (Battersea).—You can obtain the information required by applying to the company's office at The Hague, Holland, as they have no agency in this country.

Premium Bonds.—W. A. (St. Ninians).—We suggest you should hold these bonds.

Service Investment Society.—Secretary.—We see no reason to modify our views. According to the balance-sheet you have sent us the Company was established some seven years ago. How is it, therefore, that it does not even gain a reference in such a standard work as the "Stock Exchange Official Intelligence," which is supposed to deal with everything appertaining to the financial world, from Consols down to the most obscure co[illegible]? In any case, high rates of interest are not compatible with safety, and that is, after all, the main point for investors of small means.

Law Integrity Insurance Company.—Subscriber.—You complain that, having represented this company for twelve months and made a monthly increase during the last six months, you have received seven days' notice to deliver up the book, etc. If the agreement states that the agency may be terminated by either party on giving to the other seven days' notice, the company is within its rights. It is not, of course, usual for a company to part with the services of a representative unless for some good reason, and, if there is no charge or complaint against you which can be substantiated it does seem hard that you should have been deprived of your employment in the manner you mention.

New Era Assurance Corporation.—H. E (Llanelly).—This company did not succeed in building up an established position, and the assurance part of the business, you learn upon enquiry, was transferred to the Liverpool Victoria Legal Friendly Society. You hold a policy in the 'New Era," contributing £39 over a period of five years. You have written for information as to your position, but cannot obtain a satisfactory statement, and wish to know if we can help you. Write again and ask if the policy you mention was included in the schedule of policyholders taken over by them, and, if so, what value, if any, attaches to it at the present time.

Refuge Assurance Co.—Destitute.—The policy held is a joint life policy. The premiums have been paid by the wife, and the husband, who is in America, declines to contribute unless he obtains possession of the policy. After paying three annual premiums, the policy has been allowed to lapse, and although there is a bonus of £5 to be "lifted," the Edinburgh agent declines to make any payment without the signature of the husband. This apparently cannot be obtained. The company is not, of course, responsible for this omission to meet what is a usual and, indeed, a legal requirement, and unless they can suggest some way out of the difficulty, the claim cannot be enforced. You had better write the head office direct, explaining the position, when they will doubtless give every consideration to your case.

Hearts of Oak Benefit Society.—E. M. (Brixton Hill).—We note the secretary's statement that "contribution cards or books, and policies, in respect of payment to the 'Private' side of membership are not provided," and that when a receipt is desired a stamped addressed envelope must be sent with the remittance. Perhaps the secretary will enlighten us upon this point. We have frequently expressed disapproval of the system adopted in relation to fines and stamped, addressed envelopes, but apparently they are acting within their strict legal rights, the National Insurance Act conferring upon them the power to make these extraordinary rules.

Confederation Life Association of Toronto.—J. L. (Greenock), and F. H. G. (London).—The ratio of expenses to income does not compare favourably with the leading British Life Offices. On the other hand the interest earned on the Life Funds is higher than the yield obtained by Life Assurance Companies operating only in this country. The Association, which was established in 1871, is safe enough from a policy holder's standpoint. Looking at the position, however, from an all-round point of view, we should be inclined to give the preference to one of the leading English or Scottish life companies. Assuming the endowment is "with profits," the premium rate quoted is reasonable.

Provident Association of London.—F. B. (Bishop's Castle).—We have not had time to go through the voluminous documents you send us, but from a cursory perusal you would seem to have been badly treated, and to have a good claim against the Association.

House Purchase.—P. S. C. (Bury St. Edmunds).—We should prefer to recommend the City Life Assurance Company, of 6, Paul Street, Finsbury, to the concern you mention.

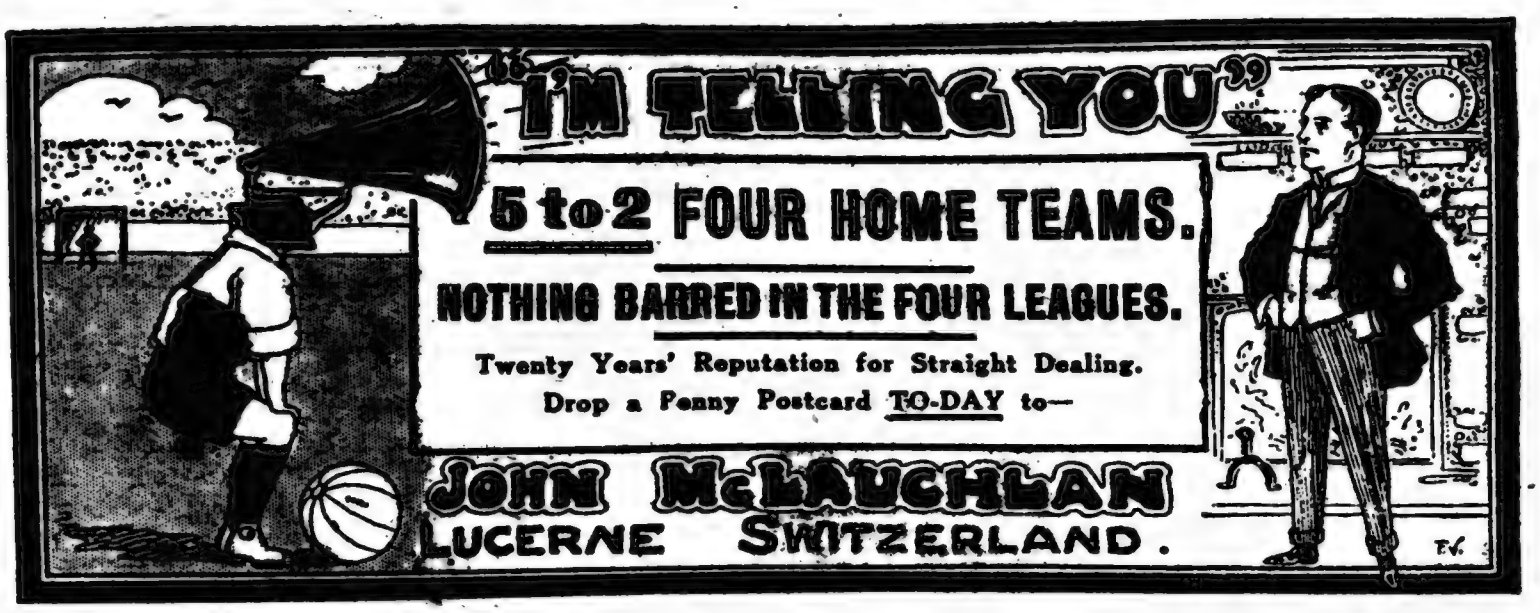
Moses Gate Mutual Self-Help Money Society.—Self-Help.—It is high time that the law made a statutory deposit imperative in permitting a society of this description to carry on business. Having carefully perused the rules, we have no confidence in the basis upon which this and similar societies are founded. Amongst many other omissions and defects, the table of benefits is not certified by an Actuary, neither is provision made for retaining the services of an Actuary to make a valuation of the assets and liabilities, as is done by the leading Friendly Collecting Societies.

City Life Assurance Co.—F. W. W. (West Hartlepool).—It is a young Company, which has had more than its share of vicissitudes; but it has successfully overcome them all and, being now established on purely Life Assurance lines, its business indicates growing prosperity and sound development. Hold the shares and policy.——E. P. (Bradford).—The Quinquennium results are due and will be published shortly. Continue the policy.

INSURANCE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—NOTICE TO OUR READERS.

Owing to the enormous number of enquiries we receive on Insurance matters, our readers will appreciate the difficulty which confronts us in giving prompt replies. Indeed, the congestion has become so great that we have decided to depart from the rule we have hitherto observed of replying only through this column, and to answer by post. Correspondents, therefore, who fail to find replies to their enquiries on this page may expect to hear from us by letter with as little delay as possible.

"AS SAFE AS THE JOHN BULL BANK."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5 to 2 FOUR HOME TEAMS.
NOTHING BARRED IN THE FOUR LEAGUES.
Twenty Years' Reputation for Straight Dealing.
Drop a Penny Postcard TO-DAY to—
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Our "Football Annual," containing several new features, will be sent free on mentioning this paper.

WINNER OF £1,000:

Mr. R. P. Weeks, 50, Bailey Street, Brynmawr, Brecon, S. Wales.

WINNERS OF £500:

E. M. Hughes, Tan-Lan, Bethesda, N. Wales; C. J. Goulter, 1, St. George's Road, Kingston Hill; W. Hargrave, Royal Marine Infirmary, Deal; J. J. Richards, 9, Shannon Grove, Brixton, S.W.; A. B. Wyatt, 3, Falmer Road, Enfield, Middlesex; W. H. Blackshaw, The Lea, Denham, Bucks.; C. Colchin, Junr., Woolpack Inn, Iwade, Kent; F. Smith, 241, High Street, Porth, Glam.; T. Phillips, 34, The Park, Treharris; W. H. Cowdery, Forester's Arms, Coxgreen, Maidenhead; B. Ainley, 10, Hamilton Street, Old Trafford, Manchester.

WINNER OF £200:

C. M. Davies, Whitby House, Priory Hill, Milford Haven.

"JOHN BULL" on Feb. 1st stated: "Each sweep promoted by H. DIAMOND is absolutely straight."

H. DIAMOND
LUCERNE SWITZERLAND
LETTER POSTAGE 2½D., POST CARDS 1D.

THE "MIRROR OF LIFE" says: "H. DIAMOND holds an enviable position for straight dealing."

£500 FOR TWO OR THREE WORDS!!!

SPECIAL HAT TRICK PRIZES.

To all competitors who succeed in winning a prize in EACH of ANY THREE CONSECUTIVE competitions, AFTER competition No. 47, we will award the sum of half-a-guinea. You can therefore commence THIS WEEK to do the "Hat Trick." These prizes must all have been awarded to one and the same person. All you have to do is to claim the half-guinea, and on verification it will be forwarded without delay. This is a distinct and additional prize-offer, and in no way affects competitors' chances of securing the £500 or any other of our weekly prizes.

Second Prize £50

FIRST PRIZE £500

Third Prize £25

TWENTY PRIZES OF £5 EACH.

50 CASH PRIZES OF 10s. EACH. 100 CASH PRIZES OF 5s. EACH.

4,000 HANDSOME PRIZES VALUE £900

AND 1,000 CASH PRIZES OF 2s. 6d.

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

MOTHER AND FATHER	AFTER DINNER	FALLING RAPIDLY	CUT SHORT	STUFF AND NONSENSE
PROFITABLE GAME	OUT OF REACH	A BAD SAILOR	A GOOD SIGN	VERY SCANTY
NOW IN FASHION	REDUCED FARE	CANDID CRITICISM	SHOCKING DISASTER	BACK NUMBER
UNWELCOME VISITOR	A GREAT TRIUMPH	WE ALL RESPECT	A WINDFALL	FULL OF SPIRIT
THE DRAWING ROOM	LOUD LAUGHTER	DOCTOR'S MISTAKE	PROBLEM PLAY	LASTING IMPRESSION
DON'T KNOW WHY	LEARNING HIS LESSON	DANGER SIGNAL	DISCHARGED WITH CAUTION	SEALED ORDERS
ALL OUT	THE HUMP	THE OLD STORY	UNJUST LAWS	ALWAYS BRAGGING
MY GOOD FORTUNE	ARE YOU THERE	BEAUTY COMPETITION	USELESS ARTICLE	POLICE CHARGES

"Bullets" is the best judged of all Competitions, and awards more Prizes weekly than any other paper.

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST and LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example "A good Sign," and take the letters "A" and "S," using the word "promptly" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet, "Accounts promptly Settled." Or from the example "Now in FAshion," the Bullet "Anything Sensational" can be formed. Again, if you take the example "We all ResPect," using the letter "P" as initial for both the first and last word, you can form the Bullet "People who Prosper."

Competitors may send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence. But if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition are in no way debarred from winning again.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Competitors can see The "Bullets" Judges at work at any time.

Closing date, Wednesday, September 24th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(51) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 431.

Signed _____

Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL," dated September 27th.

Closing date, Wednesday, September 24th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(51) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 431.

Signed _____

Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must Be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 51," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

No element of chance enters into the adjudication of our "Bullets" Competition. Every coupon is judged by TWO DIFFERENT Members of our special staff of Adjudicators, who have been selected by reason of their high qualification for this work. This staff put aside all coupons which they consider sufficiently meritorious to qualify for a prize. So that, before any coupon is rejected, TWO DIFFERENT Judges have to decide that it is not of sufficient merit to receive a prize. Then, all coupons selected are considered by the Competition Editor in consultation with the Judges. In this manner the coupons are reduced in number to correspond with the total number of prizes to be awarded. The Competition Editor, again in consultation with the Judges, next selects all the lines of outstanding merit. These are placed before the Editor, who, after consultation, decides finally the order of merit. This system of judging keeps a large staff of Adjudicators continually occupied the whole of the week—so thoroughly is the work done. We would point out that, by this system of judging, no award is decided arbitrarily by one mind. It is only after a line has been considered sufficiently meritorious by a BODY OF JUDGES IN CONSULTATION, all of whom are specially qualified for the work, that it can receive a cash or any other prize. As regards the principal prizes, the coupons of outstanding merit are considered many times by the Editor, and also by the Competition Editor and the adjudicating staff, in consultation, before the final awards are made. In a sentence, ALL coupons are read and considered, and re-read and re-considered, by a specially selected staff of highly-qualified Adjudicators, under the general supervision of an experienced Competition Expert—and in consultation with the Editor. That is why "Bullets" constitute a genuine skill contest, free from any and every element of arbitrary decision or of chance selection.

The Result of the above Competition will appear in our issue dated Oct. 11th.

RESULT OF 48TH BULLETS COMPETITION.

FIRST PRIZE OF £500:—

Mr. ROBERT JACKABERRY BURNS,
Ballinamore,
Co. Leitrim, Ireland.

Example.—NOT WORTH HAVING.
Bullet.—THEOLOGICAL DEGREE HEREAFTER.

SECOND PRIZE OF £50:—

Mrs. DAWSON,
Bedgemore Cottage,
Near Henley-on-Thames.

Example.—THROUGH THE KEYHOLE.
Bullet.—"ONLOOKER," THEN "TATLER."

THIRD PRIZE OF £25:—

Mrs. K. BADDELEY,
Montreaux Palace Hotel,
Montreaux, Switzerland.

Example.—LOOKS WELL.
Bullet.—KEEPING CLIENTS WAITING.

20 HOLIDAY PRIZEWINNERS of £5 Each.

Mr. C. L. THRIPPLETON, 35, Roundhay Avenue, Leeds:
LOOKS WELL—WHY PARVENU SUBSCRIBED.
Mr. H. H. ROBINSON, Newbold-on-Avon, Rugby:
TAKES SOME BEATING—"TIME" AS "ENGRAVER."
Mrs. R. WHITEHALL, Bourne House, Wrexham, N.W.:
OFTEN REPEATED—DRINKS WITHOUT THIRST.
Mr. RAINE CHRISTOPHER, P.O., Sacriston, Co. Durham.
NOTE THE DIFFERENCE—DOMESTIC ON ESPLANADE.
Mr. A. RICHARDSON, 208, The Grove, Hammersmith:
THOU SHALT NOT—"HIDE AND SNEAK."
Mr. H. BROWN, Boot and Shoe Stores, 2 and 3, Magdalen Road, Exeter:
WE ALL EXPECT—"WHAT'S" FROM TOTS.
Mr. M. C. WOODS, 23, Sandringham Road, Tuebrook, Liverpool:
LATER ON—REJECTED RETURNS THANKS.
Mr. J. MUNRO, 1, Roseneath Terrace, Argyle Place, Edinburgh:
ALWAYS CHANGING—'CREATIONS' SINCE CREATION.
Mr. E. BERRYMAN, Woodlands Cefn Coed, Merthyr Tydvil:
FACE VALUE—LITTLE WHEN LONG.
Mr. H. S. LOWE, 162, Gidlow Lane, Wigan:
CUPID'S ARROW—OVERTIME AT SEASIDE.
Mr. R. GABBEY, 68, Endsleigh Gardens, Ilford, E.:
ADVANCE AGENT—EXTRAVAGANCE TO CRIME.
Mr. W. MALLEN, 126, Chestnut Avenue, Walthamstow:
WHEN SHORT—"WELL!" REPLACES "WELCOME!"
Mr. G. C. ELLIOTT, 128, Raby Street, Moss Lane, E., Manchester.
LOOK'S WELL—"SACRIFICE" IN WINDOW.
Mr. W. HAWKINS, 38, Bridge Street, Penicuik, Midlothian
GOING BANKRUPT—ONLY MY TAILOR.
Mr. A. E. YOUNG, 102, Timbercroft Road, Plumstead, S.E.:
ALWAYS CHANGING—HEADS IN "CHINA."
Mr. A. E. BAKER, 28, Water Lane, Stratford, E.:
THOU SHALT NOT—STIMULATES DYSPEPTIC'S APPETITE.
Mr. G. A. CURL, "Sandal House," Queen's Road, Gosport, Hants:
TAKES SOME BEATING—SAILORS AT "SPLICING."
Mr. L. E. BULLOCK, 54, Beacon Street, Lichfield, Staffs:
SCRATCHED—STARCHED WHOLE SHIRT.
Mr. HARRY TAYLOR, 75, Richmond Terrace, Darwen, Lancs.:
PLEASE TURN OVER—NEVER FRUITERERS' ADVICE.
Mr. A. W. GREEN, 56, Matcham Road, Leytonstone, E.:
ADDRESS UNKNOWN—OUR KITTENS' DADA'S.

50 PRIZEWINNERS of 10/. Each.

ANDREWS, W., 37, Exeter Street, Tavistock.
BAGE, W., 94, Rochester Street, Walker, Newcastle-on-Tyne
BENNETT, F. E., 23, Morley Road, Lewisham, S.E.
BICHARD, J., Truchot Street, St. Peters Port, Guernsey, C.I.
BOUSFIELD, M., Aglionby, Carlisle.
CASELLI, C., Miss, 55, Dumbarton Road, Brixton Hill, S.W.
CRESSELL, G. N., 15, King's Road, Windsor, Berks.
DAWSON, J. N., 2, Oxford Road, West Hartlepool.
DOSSETTER, E., Mrs., 8, Beaumont Street, Cockton Hill, Bishop Auckland.
DREGHORN, L., 34, Whitehall Place, Aberdeen, N.B.
DUCK, G., New Inn, Abersychan, Mon.
ELLIOTT, A., Capt.'s Steward, H.M.S. "Albacore," 6th Flotilla, G.P.O.
FOSTER, E. M., Miss, 9, Kenton Street, Bloomsbury.
FURNISS, C., 11, Stafford Road, Sheffield.
GIBSON, J. A., 33, King Edward's Grove, Teddington.
GRAINGER, CLARA, Restaurant, High Street, Solihull, War.
HEALY, V., The Elders, Bramley, Leeds.
HUDSON, C., 31, Arlesford Road, Stockwell, S.W.
HYDE, F., 7, Forest Road, Enfield Wash, Middlesex.
IRWIN, H. W., King's Terrace, Cudworth, Barnsley.
KNIGHT, MARY, 63, Oakfield Road, Clifton, Bristol.
LAMB WM., Hill Crest, Pocklington, York.
LAWLER, W. J., 14, Driffield Road, Bow, London.
LOVEDAY, W., 40, Currie Street, Aberaman, Aberdare.
MCINTYRE, J., 4, Mansfield Place, Rothesay, Bute.
MCKENZIE, C., 43, The Vineyard, Richmond, Surrey.
MASON, R., 118, Lower Oxford Street, Castleford, Yorks.
MASSEY, A., Mrs., 30, Lamberts Cottages, Talbot Street, Nottingham.
MEREDITH, J., 35, High Street, Blackpool.
MILLER, A., The Hope, 4, Kenton Street, Russell Square, W.C.
MURRAY, B. J., 35, Dickinson Street, Manchester.
NEWBOLD, D., Caretaker, Town Hall, Halifax.
PAGE, E. G. K., 15, Allestree Road, Fulham, S.W.
PARK, K. 16, Ampton Street, London, W.C.
PINKUS, S., Miss, 48, Beresford Road, Canonbury, N.
PURCELL, W., 25, Woodstock Road, Walthamstow.
RAY, J. E., Ivy Bank, Highfield, Southampton.
REARDON, T. J., 37, Adam Street, Cardiff.
ROBERTS, M., Miss, 13, Monkgate, York.
ROLLS, M. K. 102, Appin Crescent, Dunfermline, Fife.
ROLLS, W., 46, Stapleton Road, Upper Tooting, S.W.
SAIT, W., 45, 5, Mortlake Road, Ilford.
SHARP, E. Pearson, 31, Field Road, Reading.
SINKINGS, C., 57, Rosslyn Avenue, Barnes, S.W.
SMITH, ANNIE, P.O., 113, Brighton Road, Derby.
SMITH, G. H., 131, Spon Street, Coventry.
STUBBS, T. E., 4, Blenheim Terrace, Leeds.
SUTCLIFFE, W. E., East Reach, Taunton.
TATTON, H., Burlton, Shrewsbury.
WATSON, W. L., Mrs., 84, Harlow Terrace, Harrogate.
Newson, A., 4, William-st., St. Peter's-st., Islington, N.
Oliver, W., 12, Reed-st., South Shields.
Owens, G. W., 233, Market-st., Eastleigh, Hants.
Parnell, Mrs. A., 9, Ulsterdale-st., Belfast.
Peall, Miss A., Enquiry Office, Harrods' Stores, Brompton-rd., S.W.
Phillips, F. J., Londona, Higher Raymond-rd., Redruth.
Piper, Miss D., 6, Magdalen-rd., Norwich.
Planterose, Mrs. G., 13, Burlington-st., Kingscliff, Brighton.
Platten, S. J., 4, Pumping Station, Trowse, Norwich.
Porteous, A., 14, Tariff-st., Manchester.
Porter, Ellen, 3, Sea Bank, South Shore, Blackpool.
Randall, P., Tadlow, Royston, Herts.
Roberts, H. W., 206, Bury New-rd., Manchester.
Roberts, J., 3, Viewfield-pl., Perth.
Rolinson, R., 1, Wynch-cottages, Court House-lane, Maidenhead.
Russell, J., 41, South-av., Carmyle, Glasgow.
Rutherford, W., Marfleet, Hull.
Sackier, J. S., Mill Villa, 94, Mayfair-av., Ilford, Essex.
Singer, G. S., Schoolhouse, Alyth, N.B.
Smooker, G. M., 26, Fairfield, Christchurch, Hants.
Stacey, Mrs. F., 150, Milton-st., Sheffield.
Stevens, V., 260, High-st., Chatham.
Story, F., 58, Mexboro'-drive, Chapeltown, Leeds.
Tope, Mrs. E., 2, Hillscourt-cottages, Thornton-hill, Exeter.
Trowbridge, J. O., Hardham, Pulborough, Sussex.
Turner, E., The Cottage Homes, Olive Mount, Wavertree, Liverpool.
Verhelle, Mary A., Hopewell House, Horsforth, Leeds.
Vickers, K. Ivy Cottage, Habrough, Lincs.
Wade, J. W., 28, Bridge-st., Morpeth, Northumberland.
Walker, W. F., Swan and Peacock Hotel, Wolverhampton.
Webster, J. E., Darracott-rd., Boscombe, Hants.
Weldon, T., c/o R. Kitching, 13, Stockton-st., West Hartlepool.
Whitehurst, Miss F. M., 32d, The Square, Fairfield, Manchester.
Wildish, W., Weymouth, Western-rd., Brentwood, Essex.
Wieldt, Winifred V., 63, St. James-rd., Tunbridge Wells, Kent.
Wilson, W. H. J., 8, Burns-st., Northampton.
Wilson, Mrs., 25, Bath-row, Rounds Green, Oldbury, Birmingham.
Wood, Mrs. T., 47, Crab Tree-lane, Fulham, S.W.

Selection from List of 4,000 Special Prizes.

Liddle, Wm., 29, Charles-st., Redcar, Yorks.
Liffen, T. H., 31, Millgrave-st., Battersea.
Lightfoot, H. E., 60, Chichele-rd., Cricklewood.
Lightfoot, Mrs., 17, Tregonwell-rd., Minehead.
Lilley, Mrs. A. E., 38, Lee-st., Hull.
Lincoln, Mrs. J., 28, Brackenbury-rd., Hammersmith, W.
Line, A., 12, Pelham-rd., Cowes, I.O.W.
Liney, Miss A., 17, Winn-rd., Southampton.
Lingwood, B. A., 70, Sussex-rd., Harrow-on-Hill.
Linsley, J. C., Mount Stuart, Rothesay.
Linter, A., 96, Leigh-st., Attercliffe, Sheffield.
List, G. H. P., Norman Villa, Portland-sq., Plymouth.
Lister, J. F., 69, West Ham-lane, Stratford, E.
Littlejohn, J., 5, Ruskin-rd., Tottenham.
Littlewood, E., Gurnock Cottage, Saltcoats, N.B.
Littlewood, W., 57, Hollydale-rd., Peckham, S.E.
Livermore, C., 96, Brunswick-st., Cardiff.
Livingstone, J. P., 40, Islington-rd., Southville, Bristol.
Livingstone, E., c/o Miss Shadbolt, Avondale-rd., Clacton-on-Sea.
Livingstone, N. L., 70, Canwick-rd., Lincoln.
Llewellyn, O., c/o Irwen, Fore-st., Topsham.
Llewelyn, L., 119, Commercial-rd., E.
Llewellin, I. J., c/o E. J. Llewellin, Printer, Barry.
Lloyd, G., 11, Fairbourne-rd., Phillip-lane, Tottenham.
Lloyd, J. W., Albert Ironworks, Chelmsford, Essex.
Lloyd, Alice M., Park Lodge, Venon-pl., Scarborough.
Lloyd, H. A., 4, Wern-ter., Cymmer R.S.O., nr. Port Talbot.

LIST OF 100 5s. PRIZE-WINNERS. "BULLETS" COMPETITION NO. 48.

Abrahams, E., c/o Mrs. Baxter, 571, Sauchiehall-st., Glasgow.
Atkinson T. F., 3, Branksome-rd., Merton, Park, S.W.
Bailey, S., Empress Laundry, Seaforth-rd., Aberdeen.
Bales, Mrs. H., 151, The Grove, Hammersmith, W.
Ball, F., 33, Lowland-rd., Runcorn, Ches.
Barrett, R., 10, Victoria-sq., Portland.
Berridge, W., 39, Spring-gdns., Brighton.
Body, Mrs. M., St. Ives, 20, Onslow-gdns., Wallington, Surrey.
Broadhurst, J. R., 14, Bordon-rd., Cheadle Heath, Stockport.
Brown, C., 31, South View, Trimdon Grange, Co. Durham.
Bull, H. P., St. Helens, Isle of Wight.
Carr, W. F., 106, Pretoria-rd., Southsea.
Clark, J., Norlands, Castle-rd., Clacton-on-Sea.
Cork, J. P., 150, The Grove, Hammersmith, W.
Cotterell, Miss F., 3, Ryburn-villas, Cheltenham.
Cross, W., 22, Boyer-st., Loughborough.
Cross, A. G., 3, Port View, Avonmouth, Bristol.
Capon, H., Bernard-cottages, Bramley-rd., Snodland, Kent.
Daniel, Mrs. M., 73, Stanley-rd., Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent.
Dignan, W. G., 2, Howard-st., Pollard-st. East, Ancoats, Manchester.
Edmunds, A. J., 12, The Crescent, Watford, Herts.
Everitt, L. S., c/o Electricity Works, Hylton-rd., Worcester.
Foster, P. H., 5, Clifton-pl., Dawlish
France, J., The Bon Bon, Gt. Cheetham-st. East, Manchester.
Frost, C., H. Bosworth, Rugby.
Fytche, W., 158, Lovett-st., Grimsby.
Gardiner, L., 273, Ivydale-rd., Nunhead.
Gardiner, A. S., 73, Willingdon-rd., Eastbourne.
Gilbert, S., 3, Lake Pilton, Barnstaple.
Goggin, B. W., c/o Mrs. N. Slattery, Summerfield, Youghal, Co. Cork.
Gray, J. J., 29, Torbay-mans., Willesden-lane, N.W.
Grieg, W. A., 47, Esslemont-av., Aberdeen.
Griffin, Mrs. J., 23, Central Park-av., Liscard, Ches.
Hale, J. E., 206, London-rd., Romford, Essex.
Hammond, F. A. C., High-st., Ixworth, Suffolk.
Harris, W., St. Huberts, Springfield-rd., Gorleston-on-Sea.
Harrison, J. W. F., 13, Crewe-st., Derby.
Hay, A. T., 134, Shirley-rd., Southampton.
Hesford, Mrs. A., 73, Alexandra-rd., Wimbledon.
Horsley, H., High-st., Bream, Glos.
Hudson, A., Dean Cottage, Topcliffe, Thirsk.
Hughes, J., 11, Dyfodwg-st., Treorchy, S. Wales.
Hunt, W., 135, Grange Park-rd., Leyton.
Hurst, J., 46, Eastbourne-rd., Aintree, Liverpool.
Jess, W., The Creamery, Dunragit, N.B.
Johnson, H. A., 6, Martin-ter., Devonport.
Johnston, W., 57, Belmont-gdns., West Hartlepool.
Kenyon, F., 28, Barrington-rd., Altrincham, Ches.
Kershaw, F., 468, Ashton-rd., Hathershaw, Oldham.
Killick, G., 98, Mildmay-grove, Mildmay Park, N.
Kitcheman, Miss E., 56, Tivoli-pl., Bradford.
Lancaster, R., 35, Alexandra-rd., Sheerness.
Large, E. J., 57, Bagot-st., Smithdown-rd., Wavertree, Liverpool.
Madgwick, A. E., Fairfield, Havant.
Macdonald, Miss Jean, 35, Leibec-av., Southend-on-Sea.
McGhee, J., 9, Bell-st., Birmingham.
Millar, G. B., South Park, Crieff.
Moorcroft, T., 29, Weightman-grove, Aintree, Liverpool.
Moore, C., Sherholt Lodge, Barton-u-Needwood, Staffs.
Morgan, W. R., 34, Ritson-st., Briton Ferry, Glam.
Moulson, Mrs., 80, Glenalmond-rd., Sheffield.
Nevill, D. S., 14, Auckland-ter., Kingston, Surrey.

"BULLETS" RULES (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Editor, and his special staff of adjudicators, is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit. In deciding prizes, originality and aptness will be taken into account. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of coupons on page 430 and only two attempts may be written on each coupon
3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed ——— & Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.
4. Coupons must not be cut or defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.
5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, September 24th.
6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.
7. The Editor's decision on any matter in dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Complete List of 1,000 Prize-winners of 2/6 each, and of all other Prize-winners in the above Competition can be seen at the "John Bull" Offices.

Racing Notes.

Concerning last week's "ragtime" Leger, "nuff sed." When the results came up on the tapes in the London clubs and newspaper offices, with none of the fancied horses in the first three, it was the general opinion that there must have been some accident or that the suffragettes had been on the war-path. When, however, it was found to be correct, the news was usually received with amusement, for sporting men like a joke, and this was reckoned to be a really good one. It was a freak race all through, and there let us leave it.

Prophetic.

Strangely enough, the principal meeting this week is in Scotland, the Ayr September Meeting being the most fashionable held across the border. To-day (Wednesday) VITTORIA looks like winning the Craigengillan Maiden Plate; ENTEBBE, the Caledonian Hunt Cup; and GULVAIN, the Scottish Derby, whilst the best thing of the day is

DAN RUSSEL

for the West of Scotland Foal Stakes. On Thursday, possible winners are UKRAINE in the Caledonian Handicap, PER ANNUM in the Juvenile Handicap; and CHEEZI in the T.Y.O. Selling Handicap. On Friday,

LORD ANNANDALE *

in the Ayr Gold Cup must represent the best thing of the week; whilst HORNBY will want beating in the Land of Burns Nursery.

Yarmouth, on Wednesday and Thursday, sees most of the Newmarket trainers making a seaside holiday. The best things on the first day look to be LLANGEINOR for the Hastings Nursery, and VARAVIL for the Great Yarmouth T.Y.O. Plate. On Thursday, BLUE STICK is the likely winner of the Gorleston Nursery, and PANDEAN can take the Sandringham Plate.

At Windsor, on Friday,

PRETTY DARK

looks good for the Merry Wives' Nursery, as does BURNING DAYLIGHT for the Queen Anne's Welter. On Saturday,

RADWAY

for the Ivor Nursery is the best thing, and LILALINE should secure the September Handicap.

"JOHN BULL" DERBY SWEEP CHARITY FUND.

We have received a cheque for £5 from Mr. Patrick O'Brien as a donation to the funds of the Charity Organisation of Glasgow, which we have had much pleasure in forwarding to the proper quarter.

SPORTING REPLIES.

The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but as token of good faith.

"JOHN BULL" FOOTBALL CUP SWEEP.—ONCE BIT.—We have made enquiries and are satisfied that Mr. Terry was not connected in any way with the individual you mention in your letter, or interested in the publication of your name. Mr. Windust has no connection with the "John Bull" Football Cup Sweep.——L. J. (London) AND OTHERS.—See notice on another page. You must get your tickets direct from Messrs. Smallman and Terry, Geneva, Switzerland. ——FOOTER AND OTHERS.—You will get all particulars from the managers, Messrs. Smallman and Terry, Geneva, Switzerland. The tickets are 2s. 6d. each, or ten for £1. We vouch for its *bona fides*. The first prize is £7,000—£15,000 in all.

SMALLMAN AND TERRY (Geneva).—T. W. (Manchester).—We have made special enquiries and understand that your tickets were duly included in the Draw. Possibly the postage stamp for 2½d., which you state you forwarded for an acknowledgment was inadvertently overlooked, which would, of course, account for your not getting a receipt.——H. G. (Gray's Inn Road).—Perfectly straight and above board.——J. C. (Manchester).—We understand that the firm is not running a Sweepstake on the Cambridgeshire.——S. T. J. (Leeds).—Yes, it is the same firm as that which has the conduct of the "John Bull" Football Cup Sweep.

COLLINS' FIGURE SYSTEM (Fulham).—LILAC.—We do not recommend you to embark two guineas or any other sum in acquiring knowledge of this "system." If it were anything like as remunerative as represented, we should think that Mr. Collins, of Fulham, would keep it to himself.

TOTALISATOR (Lucerne).—OLD SPORT.—You can obtain a full list of the winners in the recent St. Leger Draw on application to Mr. H. Cullerne-Bown, The Totalisator, Lucerne, Switzerland. We are sure that the firm's Cesarewitch Draw will be conducted on equally straightforward lines.

CALCUTTA VICEROY'S CUP SWEEP—TATTERSALL'S CLUB (Chandernagore).—C. A. G. (Rye) AND OTHERS.—In no circumstances have anything to do with this concern.

PEOPLE'S SPORT (Arlesheim).—PUZZLED.—Once more we say have nothing to do with these people. We note that the unused ticket No. 59421 you send us is described in their "Result Sheet" as having won a 10s. prize. We hope you will get it, but we won't give you anything for your chance. The statement that the Sweep is "under the supervision of the State" is all bunkum. Confine yourself in future to the firms we recommend.

H. HAMILTON AND CO. (Binningen).—BRISTOLIAN.—We believe the firm to be quite trustworthy.

A. H. WESTWOOD (Edinburgh).—M. L. (Ipswich).—We think you will be honourably treated.

H. DIAMOND (Lucerne).—S. R. F. (Great Yarmouth).—We are not responsible for anybody's opinion except our own. We can only again repeat that we have satisfied ourselves that Mr. Diamond conducts his business in an honourable and straightforward manner.

WHITE, FISHER AND CO.—SID.—The quotation to which you call our attention is perfectly genuine.

LESLIE MURRAY AND CO.—J. B. (Glasgow).—The statement that we hold the prize money in connection with this firm's St. Leger Sweep is entirely without foundation. The same remark applies to the JOHN BULL Derby Sweepstake officials attending the draw.

SMALLMAN AND TERRY'S ST. LEGER SWEEP.—J. S. (Peterborough) AND OTHERS.—We are going fully into the matter with Messrs. Smallman and Terry.

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Football Selections from the Principal Papers.

Matches to be played Saturday, 20th September, 1913.

In view of the enormous interest now taken in the competitions conducted by numerous papers, the following table of selections compiled from the principal football authorities will be found to be an extremely useful guide—

	Matches played on ground of first-named team.	Last Season's Result.	JOHN BULL	Lolinga's Weekly.	News of the World.	Weekly Dispatch.	Competitors Guide.	The Umpire.	Sporting Gossip.	Sunday Chronicle.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE—2ND LEAGUE—1ST LEAGUE	Blackburn Rovers v. Middlesbrough	Blackburn won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Bolton Wanderers v. Burnley ..	No Game	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Bradford C. v. Sheffield U. ..	Bradford won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw
	Chelsea v. Manchester U... ..	Manchester won	Home	Draw	Away	Home	Away	Home	Away	Away
	Everton v. Liverpool	Liverpool won	Home	Home	Home	Away	Draw	Away	Draw	Home
	Manchester City v. Derby C. ..	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Oldham A. v. Spurs	Oldham won	Home	Draw	Draw	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Home
	Sheffield W. v. Preston N.E. ..	No Game	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Sunderland v. Aston Villa.. ..	Sunderland won	Home	Home	Away	Away	Home	Draw	Home	Draw
	W. Bromwich A. v. Newcastle U.	W Bromwich won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Draw	Draw
	Birmingham v. Leicester Fosse ..	Birmingham won	Away	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Away
	Blackpool v. Bury	Blackpool won	Home	Home	Away	Home	Draw	Away	Draw	Home
	Bristol City v. Notts County ..	No Game	Away	Away	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Clapton Orient v. Stockport County	Clapton won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Glossop v. Fulham	Glossop won	Away	Away	Draw	Draw	Home	Draw	Draw	Away
	Grimsby T. v. Wolverhampton W.	Grimsby won	Home	Home	Away	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Away
	Leeds City v. Bradford	Leeds won	Home	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Lincoln C. v. Huddersfield T. ..	Lincoln won	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Notts Forest v. Barnsley	Notts F. won	Away	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Away	Home
	W. Arsenal v. Hull City	No Game	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Plymouth Argyle v. Bristol Rovers	Plymouth won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	West Ham v. Merthyr	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Southampton v. Swindon ..	Southampton won	Away	Away	Away	Away	Home	Away	Draw	Away
	Reading v. Cardiff C.	No Game	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Crystal Palace v. Exeter City ..	Exeter won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Coventry v. Millwall	Coventry won	Draw	Away	Draw	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Home
	Watford v. Portsmouth	Portsmouth won	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Draw
	Norwich v. Brighton	Brighton won	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Home
	Gillingham v. Southend United ..	No Game	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Northampton v. Queen's Park R.	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Draw

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Second Horse (£253) paid to J. A. Dodworth, Esq., 190, Sheffield Road, Wadsley Bridge, Sheffield.

Third Horse (£126 10s.) paid to John Cotton, Esq., Golf Hotel, Crail, Scotland.

9 other Starters received each **£42 3s. 4d.** and 189 Non-starters received each **£4 0s. 3d.**

"JOHN BULL," Sept. 13th, says:—"In accordance with the usual invitation to the Press, we sent our representative to witness the St. Leger draw and, as we fully expected, his report is entirely satisfactory. Our representative himself assisted at the draw, and was perfectly satisfied that, in accordance with the repute of this well-known firm, the whole thing was properly and correctly carried out."

"MIRROR OF LIFE," Sept. 13th, says:—"We can ourselves absolutely vouch for the honesty of the Totalisator St. Leger Sweep, for the good and sufficient reason that we drew it ourselves in conjunction with the Special Commissioner of 'JOHN BULL.'

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